



Welcome to E-Days



Get Ready To Sing Some “Drunken Lullabies”

Richard Barnes
E-Days Concert Chair

The E-Days committee is proud to present one of the greatest E-Days concerts to date. Flogging Molly will headline the 2007 E-Days concert at 7 pm on Friday March 30, in Steinhauer

Fieldhouse following one of our favorite local bands.

Flogging Molly mixes a mandolin, a tin whistle, an accordion, a banjo, and a fiddle with a guitar, some drums, and a bass to produce an invigorating combination of traditional Irish folk music and feverish punk rock.

The rock septuplet is well known for their energy and presence on stage, which promises an entertaining and upbeat show.

David King, vocals and guitar for the band, says on performing; “We’ve developed a really unique sound. The first time we all got together to play,

there was an energy in the room that I’d never experienced in any other band I’d ever been in... and it wasn’t due to any single ingredient, instrument or individual. We started playing in a bar and just played and played and played. We’re a live band. We’ll always have that.”

The band’s fabled energy and presence can be heard loud in their latest album, **Within a Mile of Home**.

Tickets will be sold as part of the packet or individually in student activities for \$10 for students and \$20 for non-students after spring break. Tickets are limited, so act fast!

Student Life Sees More Changes

Zach Aman
Editorials Editor

The Colorado School of Mines community learned last week that Robert “Bob” Francisco, Director of Student Life, had resigned.

Dr. Dan Fox confirmed that late in the afternoon on Wednesday, February 7, Francisco was put on immediate administrative leave. On Thursday, February 8, Dr. Harold Chevront, Vice President and Dean of Students for Mines, met with several faculty members at Mines,

informing them that Francisco had resigned.

A February 15 memo from Chevront formally announced the resignation. In the memo, Chevront said, “I know I speak for many students who attended CSM during Bob’s tenure in thanking him for his many contributions to the quality of Student Life, especially in the areas of facilities construction

and maintenance.”

The memo continued, “Bob was intimately involved in the construction and renovation of the Student Center, the renovations of Morgan, Thomas, Bradford and Randall Halls, as well as the construction of Mines Park, the three sorority houses, the FIJI Fraternity House, and the Recreation Center.”

In an interview, Chevront

“I don’t regret anything that I did while I was at the Colorado School of Mines.”

continued, “Bob’s worked for me for 18 years. He grew to become an extremely valuable asset to the institution.”

The February 15 memo also announced that Dr. Dan Fox, former Director of Residence Life for Mines, will fill the open position. Chevront said, “Dan is taking on that title, but he’s not taking on all of Bob’s role. I need some time to look at exactly what I want to do, but

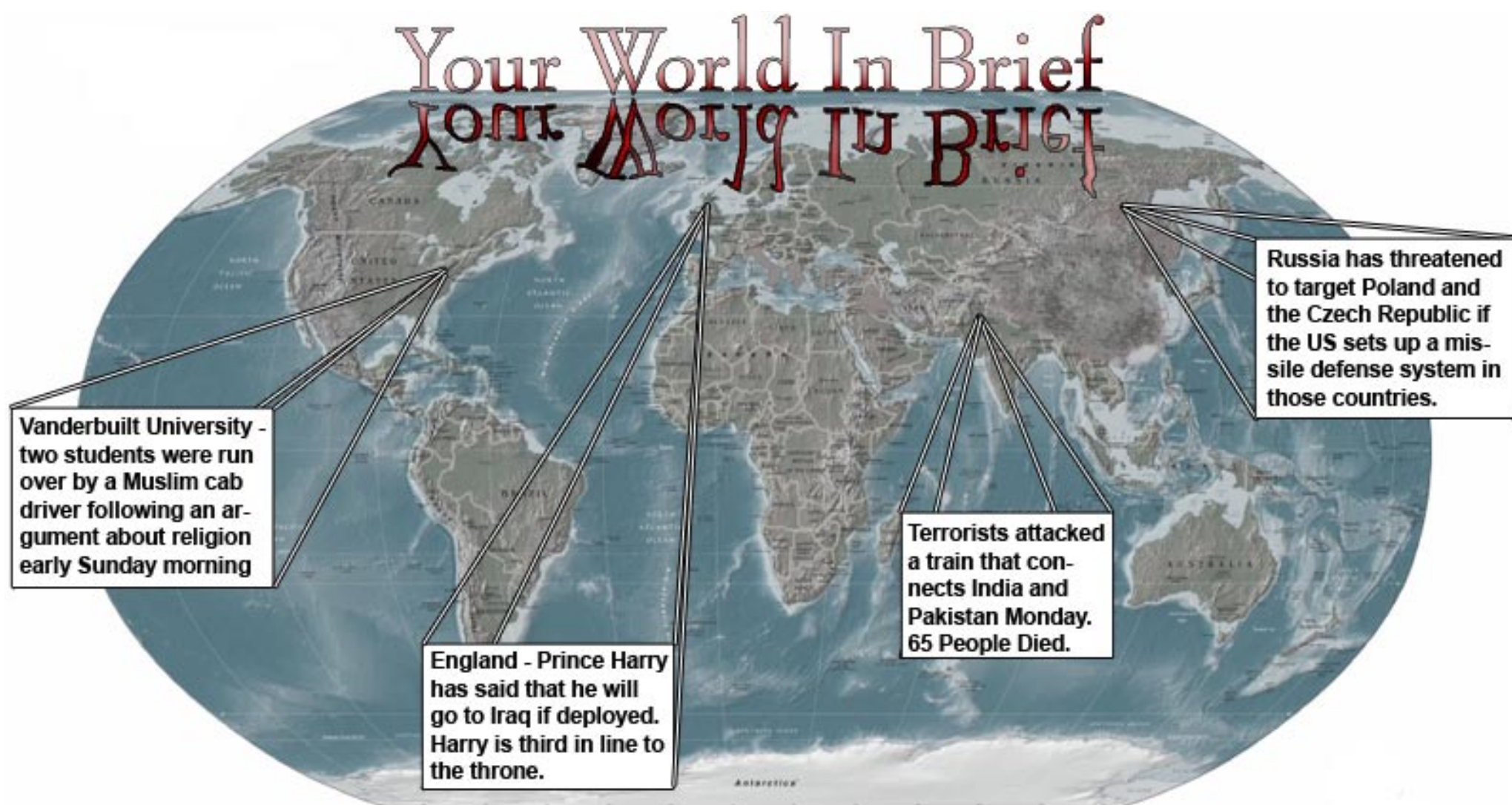
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Francisco Resigns

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we're going to make some changes on an interim basis."

In a separate interview, Fox said; "For 18 years, Bob really made this the focus of his life. At the end of the day, he always had the students' best interest in mind. He did a lot for the institution and he cared a lot for the institution and I hope that doesn't get lost. He's one of the reasons that I wanted to work at Mines."

When asked about his resignation, Chevront replied, "it's a

personnel issue and I just can't tell you more than that."

Most recently, Francisco has overseen the 24.5 million dollar construction of a new recreation center at Mines. According to Chevront, the recreation center was scheduled to be done in the second week of January. Fox said; "The only time I saw a change in his [Bob's] demeanor was during the progression of the recreation center. The last several months, I saw that take a toll. I could see it physically. I think in the nature of his position, there definitely was stress. It's a tough

field to work in."

Additionally, the Jefferson County Court records state that Francisco pled guilty on November 1, 2006 to a charge of "Driving Under the Influence" that occurred on June 24, 2006. In addition to mandatory requirements, Francisco was sentenced to 18 months of probation. The report specifies that Francisco has already completed mandatory alcohol education and therapy.

In a short phone interview on February 16, Francisco said; "I don't regret anything that I did while I was at the Colorado School of Mines."

Eve Jordal, Chevront's assistant, commented; "It's left a huge void in our operation."

Post-Vote Confusion Amendment 41 Language Stirs Controversy In Communities

Andrew Aschenbrenner
Entertainment Editor

It is hard to believe that many of the Colorado voters who voted for Amendment 41 in November envisioned the current battle over the amendment's "unintended consequences." The amendment was approved by 62 percent of voters on Election Day. It was billed as an "ethics amendment" that implements new rules for government employees and elected officials on what they can accept from lobbyists and others. Since being passed into law, the vague language of the amendment has caused a lot of concern.

The language that is the focus of the concern is in Section 3 of the amendment. It prohibits government employees, government officials, public officers, members of the general assembly, and their immediate family from soliciting, accepting, or receiving

any "gift or other thing of value" worth more than \$50 in any calendar year. Colorado Attorney General John Suthers has said that this passage could be interpreted to ban such scenarios as children of government employees accepting scholarships and college professors accepting Nobel Prize money.

Lawmakers have been putting forward all kinds of possible solutions in the debate over clarification. Some in the state legislature are holding the position that they have no legal authority to "clarify" the amendment, and others are asserting that they have a responsibility to protect people that may be unintentionally affected by the amendment's language. Mike May, House Minority Leader, has encouraged Governor Ritter to intervene and ask the state Supreme Court for clarification. Evan Dreyer, a spokesman for Gov. Ritter, responded that the legislature should weigh in first.

Lawsuits have been filed over the

amendment, including one by a citizens group and one by the Boettcher Foundation over its college scholarships. At least one other scholarship foundation has sued over the issue. The citizens group is asserting that Amendment 41 "intrudes in private lives and chills free speech." They are asking the courts to declare all or parts of the amendment unconstitutional.

The Boettcher lawsuit has already been ruled on, with a Denver District Court judge saying that the scholarships are exempt from Amendment 41 because of a provision that allows gifts if the recipient gives something in return. Scholarship recipients must meet certain qualifications.

Meanwhile, Amendment 41's backers have hired lobbyists to push for a bill that creates the ethics commission called for in the amendment and also clarifies the types of gifts that the amendment outlaws. The legislature is set to vote today on a bill that would enact the amendment as-is.

Open House Coming Soon Energy Tech And Physics

Jason Fish
News Editor

Each year, the American Physical Society (APS) invites physicists from the United States and around the world to gather and display new research and theories, discuss ideas, and exhibit products from physics-related industry. Called the March Meeting, it is coming to Denver this year (March 5-9).

The event is being held at the Colorado Convention Center in downtown Denver and organizers expect to draw over 7,000 guests.

This year, the Colorado School of Mines is getting involved with the Meeting by having an open house on campus, Sunday, March 4th. The Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory (CREC), made up of CSM, Colorado State University, University of Colorado, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is hosting the three hour prelude to the week-long convention.

The open house will focus on energy research and physics education. President Bill Scoggins and Dr. John Poate, Vice President of Research and Technology at CSM will be the primary hosts. Additionally, representatives from the other universities and NREL will help to administer the events.

Attendees will be guided through laboratories at CSM such as the Colorado Fuel Cell Center (CFCC), the Photonics and Ultrafast Laser Science (PULSE) laboratory, and the Physics

Learning Studio.

"We want to use this opportunity to make people aware that we are a player in this game," said Dr. Tony Dean, one of the lead scientists in the CFCC and a professor in the Chemical Engineering department.

Dr. Dean will present the CFCC to open house guests by simulating a regular work day in each focused area of the lab. "The plan will be to have people working in all three sections,

fabrication, liquid hydrogen research, and fuel processing," said Dr. Dean.

New projects have recently started in the CFCC under Ryan O'Hare, assistant professor in the Materials and Metallurgical Engineering department

and a CSM alum. O'Hare is working on air-breathing fuel cells that could be used in cell phones, computers, and other small electronic devices. Dr. Dean said the CFCC is excited to display these new developments to open house attendees.

Following the tours, Dr. Franklin M. Orr Jr., Director of the Global Climate and Energy Project at Stanford University, will give a public lecture on the development of technologies and research related to renewable energy, and the current and future state of global climate. The lecture will be held in Friedhoff Hall at 7:00pm.

The open house is not restricted to March Meeting attendees, but space for the tours is limited. CSM students, faculty, and the public are encouraged to attend and can RSVP at https://hagrid.mines.edu/outreach/cont_ed/APSfieldtrip_pgp.html

"We want to use this opportunity to make people aware that we are a player in this game."

New Remedy?

Iran Claims Cure For AIDS

Mike Stone
Staff Writer

Iran's Minister of Health, Kamran Lankarani, announced two weeks ago that the nation's lead scientists have developed a cure for HIV and AIDS. The claim states that with a three month treatment of the drug "IMOD," patients can essentially "pause" the growth of HIV for two years.

AIDS or Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome is a disease where the body cannot defend itself against viruses or infections and is acquired from Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Some patients can carry HIV for up to 12 years before showing signs and developing AIDS.

Scientists around the world can't believe that Iran has made a reputable cure for HIV/AIDS. One reason for the hesitance is false "cure" claims in the past. Gambian President Jammeh announced just last month that he owns a treatment for AIDS that cures the patient in three days. Claims like these have led renowned scientists to not consider any third world discoveries until further

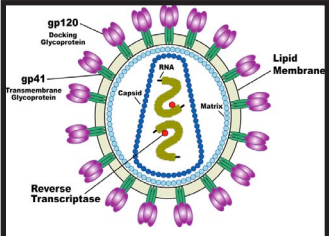
testing is complete. There are approximately 40 million people infected with AIDS worldwide. In the United States, there are over 1 million cases of HIV/AIDS with 40,000 new cases of HIV every year.

Many political scientists note the similarities between "cure" claims, including being herb based and in politically unstable countries with leaders desperate to maintain power. All claims are also kept chemically secret so no one can protest their declaration.

The problem with these untrue or untested cures is that they give false hope to desperate patients. Thinking they're cured, patients could transfer their still existent HIV or AIDS to unknowing partners.

"They're dishonest (purposely or accidentally) and universally bad science. They only provide benefits to the one with the "cure": money, prestige ... or a boost to the reputation and popularity of the individual (very useful in politics)," commented David Frossard.

Iran has not released definitive information on the cure and will not announce when it will due so. Learn more about HIV, AIDS, and how to protect yourself at www.thebody.com.



Courtesy wikipedia.com
Symptoms of HIV are the target



Courtesy wikipedia.com
Red Ribbons are being sold to raise awareness for AIDS

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Poetry Corner

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Verse*

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Unexpected Implications

Controversy of Definitions in Amendment 41

Kevin Duffy
Staff Reporter

Last November saw the passage of Colorado Amendment 41 into law, but the implications of that vote are just now beginning to be felt. The spirit of 41 was to promote government transparency by placing monetary limits on the transactions between politicians and lobbyists.

The harsh reality coming into focus today, however, is that the broad based language alludes to conflicts of interest that go far beyond the capital.

Amendment 41 broadly defines politicians as: "elected state officials and certain local officials, appointed state and local officials, and government employees." Essentially, anyone who receives a paycheck from the government is categorized in this designation.

It goes on to state that none of the aforementioned individuals can receive more than \$50 in gifts from anyone except family. As Mines is a public university, financed among other things by state money, how are students classified in this new legal framework?

No definite answer exists at the moment, and hence the controversy

surrounding Amendment 41. Plausible definitions and conflicts have arisen from all over Colorado. Are students who receive state funding still eligible if their parents work for the government?

Do students working for the school through either work-study or departmental funds constitute the definition of a government employee? If so, can these students still be eligible for state-funded aid packages?

The answers to these questions are vital in determining the financial status of students state-wide.

Several pro-college organizations, such as the Boettcher Foundation, have already begun to fight back. They are in the process of suing the state on the legal basis of 41.

The broad language again concerns the children of government employees who receive this prestigious scholarship. The Boettcher Foundation feels that the current wording of

the law does not provide them with the legal justification to give out scholarships to those students.

However, the organization ultimately knows this to be an unjust denial of academic reward. Several more lawsuits can be expected in coming months if this issue is not soon clarified.

Even the initial supporter and financial backer of Amendment 41, Jared Polis, is quoted in the Rocky Mountain News as saying; "Amendment 41 was poorly worded. And I deeply regret that..." He goes on to state that he still believes the amendment to be a noble cause.

The ultimate issue at this point, however, is that Amendment 41 is now part of Colorado's constitution. It cannot simply be erased because the voters did not realize what they were voting for at the time.

The Colorado Supreme Court as well as the Colorado Senate can pass judgment limiting the language of the bill without going back to the voters. Nevertheless, this may create a volatile political situation, because neither party wants to be seen as "soft" on government ethics.

"Amendment 41 was poorly worded. And I deeply regret that..."

-Jared Polis, initial supporter and financial backer of Amendment 41

"As Mines is a public university, financed among other things by state money, how are students classified in this new legal framework?"

Revolution Unzipped: Voice of the Pantsless

I invoke your spirit, Thomas Paine, for you once dealt with a crisis similar to the plague we now face. "Common Sense" released us from the chafing grasp of a corrupt king, saved us from the Redcoats. But it will take divine knowledge to break us from our current chains.

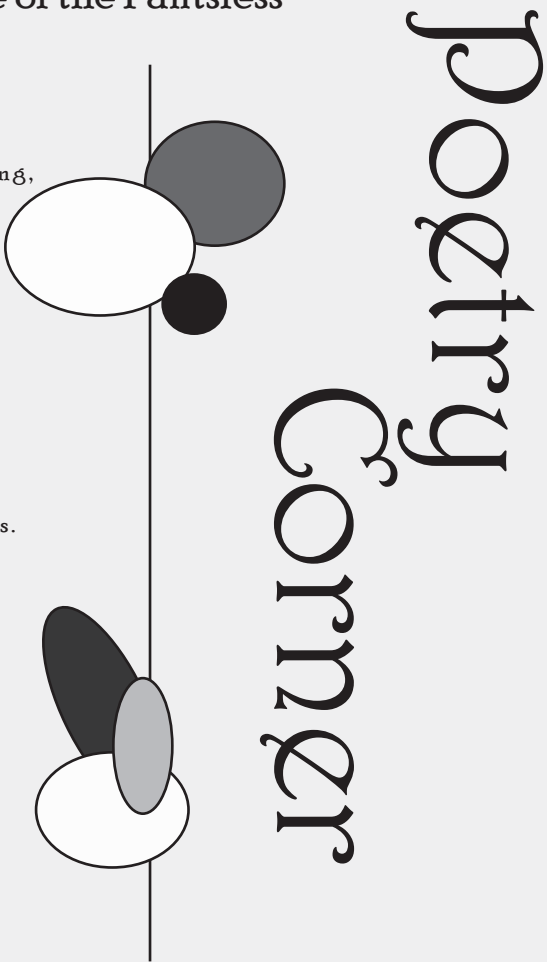
Friends, comrades, we are living under the false pretenses of a puppet government. We are the last pocket of resistance against a cruel and unjust ruler. Too long have we been persecuted, oppressed by pants, shackled by shorts. We must struggle to escape the vertical stripes of corduroys, the prison bars holding humanity.

The enemy is no longer stiff, brittle as the metal pants of yore, but dynamic, ever-changing. Pantaloon become breeches, trousers, acid wash jeans, Hammer pants, and Bermuda shorts.

They have invaded every facet of life, snow pants for the arctic climes, waders for the aquatic. We must take up arms against the separation of knees, separate but equal. Battle for the peaceable assembly of thighs and our constitutional right to bare legs. Free your families from the captivity of Capris.

The two legged bacteria have evolved, diversified, even developed stain resistance. But we still have the power, the freedom, to press the pant menace from existence before it rides up the ass of America.

-Alex Hughson



CALLING ALL POETS

*Please send Poetry Corner submissions to
oredig@mines.edu*

Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise



Courtesy www.wikipedia.com

Come early to Wellness Day to sign up for a professional massage in a special massage chair! Wellness Day is from 10:30am until 1:30pm, on Friday, February 23, in the Student Center Ballrooms.

Wellness Day is Coming Soon

Sandra Sims
Student Health and Academic Services

Be sure and partake in the festivities at CSM's 17th Annual Wellness Day!

Each year, a variety of local health & wellness experts gather in the Ballrooms of the Student Center to share their wares with the CSM campus community. This event is a wonderful opportunity to sample new products, get a massage, participate in health screenings and safety demonstrations, and just have a great time! Where else can you sample organic foods, pet a puppy, climb aboard a fire truck, try some yoga and meet a naturopath all in one place? Did I mention the **FREE STUFF**?

We continue to promote the **5 Dimensions of Wellness: Physical, Emotional, Social, Intellectual and Spiritual** through this event. We have invited vendors who represent all of these dimensions with the goal of broadening our views of Wellness. Everything from traditional and alternative medicine, safety and prevention, outdoor recreation and travel, healthy eating and responsible pet ownership will be represented. Students will be eligible to win great prizes if they visit tables representing all 5 dimensions.

Wellness Day occurs Friday, February 23rd from 10:30am to 1:30pm in the Student Center Ballrooms.

We'll see you there!

Like Pasta? Try Toni Rigatoni's

Konrad Klett
Asst. Sports Editor

Tony Rigatoni's restaurant has some of the best Italian food I've ever had. While not extremely fancy or expensive, the place is definitely a cut above a place like Chili's.

If you've seen Lady and the Tramp, you know exactly what this place is like. Tony Bennett is playing in the back ground, there are traditional checkered tablecloths, the smell of garlic in the air and a pair of survivalist fish in the tank. The place was very clean as well.

Strangely, I ended up being served by three different waiters and waitresses and they were all very helpful without being around too much. One thing I truly appreciated was having the door opened for me by the wait staff when they saw that I was coming in for a meal.

My first order was an espresso

in the world's smallest cup. Even without any cream or sugar, it was quite good. Next I ordered spaghetti with olive oil and various spices and some garlic cheese bread.

The salad is complementary and quite good. The spaghetti was perfectly cooked and the bread (in all its cheesiness) was crispy with just the right amount of spicing. Besides the deliciousness, the food also impressed me with its large proportions, which is something that restaurants almost always fail in, in my opinion.

Seriously, the cheese bread order was actually massive enough for me to need a box. The prices range from around six to twelve dollars for an entrée. It is located at 14th street near Woody's and the Starbucks. Although its location makes it easy to miss, this one is definitely worth checking out.

Can You Dig It?

SME Conference comes to Denver

Adam Freeland
Staff Reporter

The Colorado School of Mines has the honor of being the host school for the 2007 Society for Mining Metallurgy and Exploration Annual Meeting & Exhibit and 109th National Western Mining Conference.

This year's conference will be held at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver from February 25-28. The conference will consist of hundreds of booths sponsored by as many mining companies, and plenty of social activities.

Many students attending the conference have chosen to have an industry professional guide them through the conference in the Mentor Program. They will meet in the student forum early Sunday afternoon.

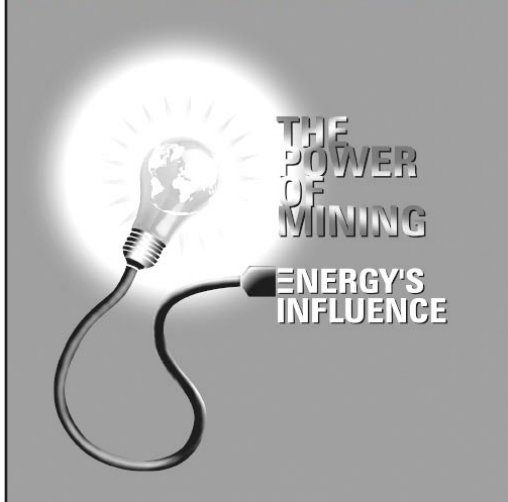
There will also be a kick-off student mixer hosted by Newmont on Sunday night. The conference is a great place for students to get a feel for the industry and all of its opportunities.

The conference also serves as an introduction to many companies that haven't been represented at the Career Fairs. Many students at last year's SME Conference were offered summer intern positions in locations across the country.

There will be a competition hosted by the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) during the conference in which students from Mines will compete against other mining-oriented students from across the country.

There will also be paper presentations given by students throughout the conference. CSM is also hosting an Alumni Dinner Reception on Tuesday from 5:30-7:30. For More information on this dinner, contact Shannon Mann in the Mining Department at Smann@Mines.edu

For More information on the conference, visit www.smenet.org. For information about related events contact Michelle Harman, the President of the CSM Student Chapter of SME, at mharman@mines.edu.



Courtesy SME, CSM
SME members enjoy the conference exhibits.

Once in a Blue Moon

Chris Phillips
Business Manager

The Coors Brewing Company released a new seasonal brew under its Blue Moon Label - Blue Moon Spring Ale. As a fan of wheat beer, I recently took a couple of trips to Coors Lab to review this beer, and here's my impression.

The first thing I studied was the appearance of the beer. It is highly filtered and is a golden-brown / orange color. Also, the beer pours with a good amount of head on it, and comes with a lime slice. You could see the carbonation (especially on the lime slice). Overall, it looked very inviting, but I still wasn't sure what to expect.

Before tasting, I put my nose to the beer to see what scents I could detect. I could smell the fruit flavoring of the beer, and this was enhanced by the slice that was placed in it. My olfactory organ wasn't able to really smell anything else.

The taste of the beer was similarly

hard to detect. I could tell that it was in my mouth, and the lime came through slightly, but I really couldn't get much of a flavor to come through past all of the carbonation and the taste of really light bread. It took a while for the beer to settle down in my mouth, and the taste of lime was more prominent after that.

The aftertaste of this beer wasn't all that significant, either. It wasn't unpleasant for me - just the somewhat bitter aftertaste that I have experienced with other beers. The fruit flavor was essentially nonexistent in this part of the flavor.

Overall, I was pretty disappointed with this ale. I have enjoyed the other Blue Moon varieties, but this one fell short of my expectations.

Note: Neither the Oredigger nor the Coors Brewing Company promote or condone the consumption of alcoholic beverages by people less than 21 years of age.



Geek of the Week

...Emily Przekwas, Junior

Hilary Brown
Features Editor

[Oredigger] What is your favorite activity or sport?

[Emily] Do I only have one option? Basketball and I play for the school. I like playing the piano and I like lots of things.

What is the geekiest thing you've ever done?

Let's see... there's so many to choose from. I've done homework on a Friday night, does that count? I've taken homework to a restaurant while I was eating dinner and worked on it.

What is the geekiest thing you have seen at Mines?

Probably the cardboard canoe races, but pretty much every guy I see is the geekiest thing I've seen at Mines—just kidding, I don't want to be mean.

What are your thoughts on "the ratio?"

What's that saying? The odds are good, but the goods are odd. That's about all I can say about the ratio.

What is your best geek joke?

I'm really bad at telling jokes. What do you get when you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter? Pumpkin Pi.

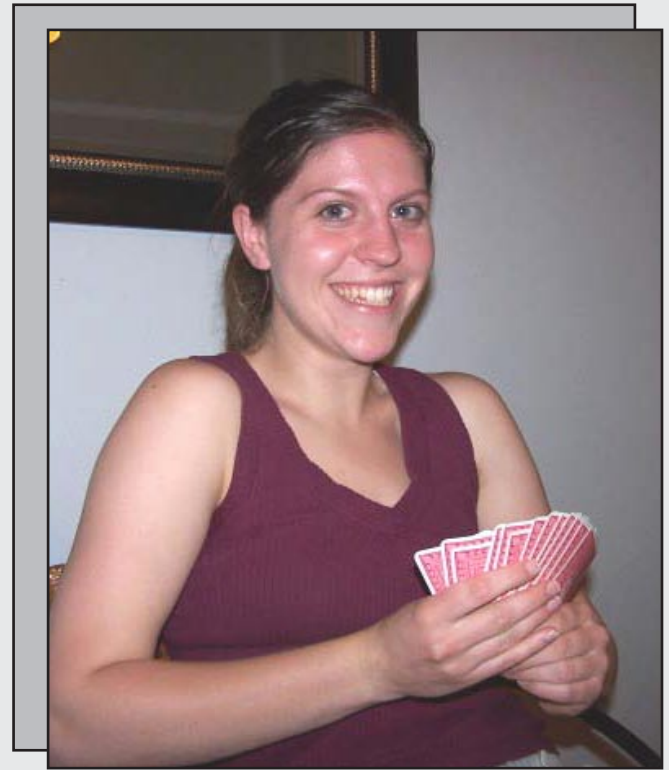
What is your most hated or loved math "thing"?

I love trigonometric identities!

Do you like video games? If so, which kind?

I like Tetris, but I haven't played since I was eight.

Do you have any special



Courtesy Emily Przekwas
Emily is a card shark and she loves trigonometric identities. Maybe that's her secret to winning Bridge games.

skills?

I play Bridge, I can say that's pretty special.

Name something impressive that you have done.

I started a Bridge club over the summer and we got like upwards of twenty-five people to come sometimes. Our Facebook group, "Bridge Isn't Just for Grandmas Anymore," has 41 members.

How did you do that?

Enticing them with food. And, rich people like Bill Gates play Bridge. I like to entice geeks with geeks.

What are your plans for graduation?

More school, but not Mines. My plan for graduation is to get away from Mines as quickly as possible, then getting more school.

Coffee and Conversation

Lily Giddings
Staff Reporter

One of the friendliest faces on the Colorado School of Mines is Betty Troudt, also known as "the Coffee Cart Lady." She greets all her customers with a smile and friendly conversation as she fixes drinks.

"One of the best things about working with the people here is that they are so patient, they don't get upset if I can't get their drink right away."

She has become such a familiar person on campus that student ambassadors are instructed to greet her as they lead tours through the student center.

Betty says, "I just love being in the middle of all the activity! I used to work in the I-Club, and I never got to really meet the students." Students are more than willing to get to know Betty as well.

Betty has worked with the food service at Mines for 10 years, only 3 of which have been at the coffee cart. "I love to talk to the students. They are so friendly, they tell me about their classes and how their day is going. They keep me young!"

Betty offers a listening ear to anyone who cares to talk to her. She tries



Lily Giddings/ Oredigger
Betty Troudt loves to meet new students and chat up the "regulars" as she makes coffee in the Student Center atrium.

to get to know all students who come and buy from her cart.

She knows the "regulars" and starts their drinks when she sees them coming.

Betty really enjoys working at the coffee cart, even though she had never done it before. She likes to try her own recipes

for the pastries offered at the cart.

"I just love being in the middle of all the activity!"

Betty would like to inform students that she is only one of the hardworking team of Aramark employees that

strive to give their service. She loves being part of the team providing for the students.

Student Clubs

Astronomy Club
Ever watch the sky? Come join the Astronomy Club and learn basic astronomy! Our meetings are Thursday at 7:00 pm. Contact Mark Gefreh at mgefreh@mines.edu

CMI
Campus Ministry International. Dealing with life’s tough questions. Sexuality, Relationship, Ethics, Spirituality and more. Monday nights, 7:30 p.m. SC-C. For info cmi.csm@gmail.com or (303)499-9965

CRU
Campus Crusade for Christ. Thurs. @ 7 pm in SC-C. Everyone welcome.

Circle K
Circle K is a volunteer org. helping people. Got tons of projects, just need you! Contact jrisner@mines.edu.

Dance Team
Interested in dancing? Offers both beginning and advanced classes in: jazz, lyrical, hip hop, and tap. Times & directions, for info contact hbrown@mines.edu.

FCA
Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Wed. meets at 7:30 Student Center Ballrooms D&E. All welcome. jwells@mines.edu.

French Club
A social club where Francophones have an opportunity to speak to each other, celebrate French events, promote French culture on campus. If you are interested, please send an email to kgengenb@mines.edu.

ISEE
International Society of Explosives Engineers. Contact jgresham@mines.edu. 6pm, 3rd monday of each month, exact date and location TBA (email for details). We have monthly meetings with speakers from many different industries. All students are welcome to attend meetings, www.mines.edu/academics/mining/csm_isee

Juggling Club
Meets Thursdays at 5:30pm on the Kafadar commons. The CSM Juggling Club is dedicated to advancing the juggling skills of all its members. We teach our members everything from a simple three ball cascade, to club passing, and then encourage them to learn upwards of nine balls. If you’re interested, show up to a meeting, or contact Michael at mdunlap@mines.edu

Karate Club
Meets every Monday and Wednesday Night, from 6:30 to 7:00 pm in the gym wrestling room. All levels of experience, from beginner to advanced, are welcome! For more information, contact Jason Dardano at ddardano@mines.edu.

Kendo Club
Where: Field House
When: Wednesday, January 25, 2005 8:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.
Anyone who is interested should attend; we will provide all the information necessary. Practice is open to all skill levels, no experience necessary. A great opportunity to exercise, improve coordination, and have fun.

MSEC
Materials Science and Engineering Club meets Friday in HH 202 at noon. Lunch is provided for members, and guest lecturers will be speaking. All majors invited to join. jeperkin@mines.edu.

Newman Group
Catholic Newman Group. Meets every Monday at 7pm in the Ted Adams Room of the Green Center for faith based discussion and community. ccooper@mines.edu for more info.

ORC
Outdoor Rec. Center. Recreation, equipment and lessons. Visit ORC next to C3 store in Mines Park. Hours: Mon. Wed. and Fri. from 10-6, Tues. and Thurs. from 12-6. 303-273-3184

PreMed Society
We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 5 pm in HH211. Contact wsvoboda@mines.edu.

SCA
Students for Creative Anachronism. Fencing meets Thrus. 7-9 in the Field House. Belly & court dance Tues. 7-9 in SC. dhoberec@mines.edu.

Sigma Lambda
1st and 3rd Tuesays of Every Month in Library Boethcher Room. EVERYONE WELCOME: gay, bisexual, transgendered & allies. sigmalambda@mines.edu.

Sober Drivers
Need a ride home on Fri. or Sat. night between 9 pm & 3 am? Kappa Sigma Sober Driver Program 303-279-9951. Must be within 15 min. of campus.

SEB
Society of Economics and Business. Meetings are held bi-weekly in EH 211 with guest speakers from the working world. The speakers talk about their experience and give insight into the real world of business. Food and drinks are provided at the meetings. Questions? Contact Sarah Casias at scasias@mines.edu.

SWE
Society of Women Engineers. Hear from speakers in industry, universities etc. on topics affecting women & students at Mines. Weds. 12 CO 209 jnekuda@mines.edu.

Club Tennis
New members welcome for info, email Megan at mshibao@mines.edu.

Women’s Ultimate
Come out and join the Women’s Club Ultimate Team. This team was founded in 2005-2006 and is looking for women who want to both have fun and learn about ultimate. No prior skill required. For more information and practice times/locations contact Terra Williamson at tewillia@mines.edu or Jennifer Nekuda at jnekuda@mines.edu.

Ski Team
Looking to continue racing in a relaxed fun environment or just an excuse to go skiing more? Join Ski Team! Email croe@mines.edu for info.

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Thursdays at 5, Student Activities Office, Student Center

ASCSM RESOLUTION	
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES	
Resolution to change copy card device in BB276 (Bill 2007.04) 02/15/07	
Author:	Thomas Bonnie, ASCSM At-Large Representative (2002-2005, 2006-2007) BlasterCard Implementation Committee Member (2005-06)
Advisor:	Derek Morgan, Director of Student Activities
WHEREAS, The Department of Student Life implemented an “onecard” identification card system for the institution in March 2005.	
WHEREAS, As part of the implementation process, the Department of Student Life, Purchasing Department, and the Academic Department converted most copy machines from the old copy card reader to BlasterCard Readers.	
WHEREAS, The Copy Machine in BB276, the Engineering Student Lounge, was not converted to a Blastercard Reader at the time of implementation for unknown reasons. This copy machine is the only student accessible copy machine in Brown Hall.	
WHEREAS, The File Cabinet in BB276 is the only location where Engineering Professors provide homework solutions. Since the copier is not BlasterCard compatible it is not possible to make photocopies without an old copy card.	
WHEREAS, The Engineering Division has been asked several times to convert the old copy card reader to a Blastercard reader. The Division at one point posted a notice that the card reader would be converted prior to the Start of the Fall 2006 Semester. To date the reader has not been changed.	
RESOLVED, THAT THE STUDENT COUNCIL REQUESTS THAT THE INSITUATION CONVERT THE COPY MACHINE CARD READER TO A BLASTERCARD READER FOR THE COPIER IN BB276.	
RESOLVED, THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE OREDIGGER.	
ASCSM ACTION:	February 15, 2007,
PRESIDING OFFICER:	Casey Morse, ASCSM President 2006-2007
PRESIDENTIAL ACTION:	February 15, 2007

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Colorado Mammoth Showcase

Rocky Mountain Excellence



Michael Martin/Inside Lacrosse

Brian Langtry recorded two goals and three assists in the Mammoth's victory over Portland on Feb. 16.



Jack Martin/Inside Lacrosse

Colorado goaltender Gee Nash earned his seventh straight victory with the Mammoth's win over Calgary on Sunday.

Bruce Bugbee

Sports Editor

It is hardly a secret that Denver, Colorado is becoming one of the most exciting sports cities in America. With teams like the Nuggets, Avalanche, and the Broncos, who always seem to be in the playoff hunt, the soccer-playing Rapids making yearly runs in the playoffs, and the Rockies still providing excitement in the less than stellar NL West, Denver is often seen as a haven for professional sports. With all these different franchises vying for attention, it is easy to see how the team that calls Denver home with the most success over the past couple years could get lost in the mix. That team is the Colorado Mammoth of the National Lacrosse League.

Since moving from Washington to Denver in 2003, the Mammoth are the only professional sports team in Colorado to win a league championship. In their short residency in Colorado, the Mammoth have posted an astounding 40-24 record to add to their Champion's Cup (the NLL league championship) season in 2006. As the 2007 season approaches the halfway point, the Mammoth are at the top of the league rankings with an impressive 9-1 record.

With such an impressive record, it's hard not to wonder; "How is it that a team this good falls through the cracks?" Frankly, a lot of it has to do with the sport of lacrosse itself. Lacrosse, which can be thought of as a high octane version of field hockey, is not a main stream sport in here

in the United States. This makes it extremely difficult to attract new fans to the sport, which in turn makes it harder for to negotiate television distribution deals.

This is not an indictment of the sport of lacrosse, however. When you go to a Colorado Mammoth game, you come for a sporting event but end up with much more than that. NLL games can be described as two parts athletic skill and three parts showmanship; these games are anything but boring. While lacrosse is an exciting sport to watch in and of itself, the experience is intensified thanks to a boisterous DJ, an exhilarating soundtrack, and pyrotechniques that would rival even the best concerts.

Lacrosse is finally gaining ground on the major sports. Already dubbed

"the official summer sport of Canada," lacrosse is regarded as the fastest-growing national sport in the United States. A recent survey by U.S. Lacrosse, the governing body of organized lacrosse through out the United States, shows that more lacrosse teams have been created than any other sport on the high school, college, and post-college level. Much of this success can be attributed to the efforts of the Mammoth and the NLL.

For a taste of some exciting athletic competition and for a look at one of Colorado's premier sports franchises, check out the Colorado Mammoth at their next home game this Saturday at the Pepsi Center. For more information on lacrosse check out U.S. Lacrosse at www.uslacrosse.org.

What's Better Than a Mammoth Game?

The answer to that question turns out to be not much. For around \$20 you can get a club level ticket, a hot dog, a beer, and still have enough to pay for parking. Here is how that breaks down compared to the other major sports franchises in Denver.

Colorado Rockies

One lower reserved corner seat, a hot dog, and a beer: **\$25**

Colorado Avalanche

One upper level seat, a hot dog, and a beer: **\$45**

Denver Nuggets

One upper level seat, a hot dog, and a beer: **\$30**

Denver Broncos

One upper level seat, a hot dog, and a beer: **\$60**

Not into sports? Here are some breakdowns of some of the non-sporting events that happen in the Denver area compared to going to a Mammoth game.

Go to a Movie

One ticket, a medium popcorn, and a medium soda: **\$15**

Go Mini Golfing

One round of mini golf, a hot dog, and a medium soda: **\$15**

Go to a Play

One ticket and concessions at the DCPA for *King Lear*: **\$60**

Check out www.colorado-mammoth.com to get the team's complete home schedule and for detailed ticket information.

Definitely a Contact Sport

When lacrosse was first developed by the Native Americans, they used materials ranging from deer skin to stone to create the balls that they tossed back and forth. Sometimes they even used the heads of enemies that they killed in battle. Games could be played on fields as long as one mile and could go on for days at a time.

Oftentimes a lacrosse game was held between tribes to settle a dispute or to prepare younger members for battle.

Crosse-over Phenomenon

The game lacrosse got its name from early French missionaries who observed the Native Americans playing between their tribes. The name "lacrosse" comes from the French term "crosse" which was used to described the curved cane that was carried by bishops as a symbol of office.

The first organized lacrosse group was founded by George William Beers in Montreal in 1867. He was the first person to standardize the rules of lacrosse to resemble their current form.

Stampeding Over the Competition

The Colorado Mammoth have demolished the competition over the past three years that they have been in Denver. Being the only Colorado pro sports team to win a league championship in that time span, the Mammoth have produced one of the National Lacrosse League's all-time scoring leaders (Gary Gait), a NLL MVP (Gary Gait), an NLL Rookie of the Year (Brian Langtry), and an NLL Goaltender of the Year (Gordan "Gee" Nash).

U.S. Soccer Makes 2018 World Cup Bid



Courtesy Alexander Joe

Angola celebrates scoring their first World Cup goal against Iran on 21 June in the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

Steve Goff
Washington Post Staff Writer

The U.S. Soccer Federation is formulating a bid to host the 2018 World Cup, an effort that could bring the quadrennial tournament here for the first time in 24 years as well as position the United States to stage the 2014 event in case a South American country is not ready.

USSF President Sunil Gulati said yesterday that the federation will form an organizing committee at this weekend's annual meetings in Los Angeles and prepare to formally advise FIFA, the sport's world governing body, of its intentions to compete for the 2018 tournament. England is also planning a bid. The host is likely to be chosen in 2012.

"We showed in 1994 that the U.S. is capable of hosting a terrific event," Gulati said in a telephone interview. "Now, with the way the soccer landscape in this country has evolved, we would be in position to put on a spectacular event. We are much more a part of the sport internationally than we were in 1994."

Amid global skepticism about

holding the tournament in a nontraditional soccer-playing country, the '94 World Cup set the record for largest average game attendance (68,991) and generated millions of dollars in revenue for the nine U.S. venues, including Washington, and for various national soccer initiatives.

Last summer's World Cup in Germany, played in stadiums with smaller seating capacities than the U.S. football facilities used in 1994, averaged 52,491, the third-highest figure in tournament history.

Despite concerns about its preparedness, South Africa is set to host

the 2010 tournament. A South American country is scheduled to stage the 2014 event, with Brazil and Colombia having expressed interest, but FIFA President Joseph "Sepp" Blatter has left open the possibility of awarding it elsewhere.

"We have said that the 2014 World Cup will be staged in South America," he said recently. "But if there is no candidate strong enough, then we would go north instead as the logical thing."

Mexico -- which hosted in 1970 and '86 -- might also formulate a bid

for 2018 and be ready for 2014.

Gulati said the USSF is focused on 2018, not 2014, but "obviously FIFA knows what we're capable of and, if something else changed, we would be open to any other possibilities."

FIFA is planning to choose the 2014 site this November, seven years in advance instead of the usual six in case of bidding issues. Most South American countries are supporting Brazil, which has won the World Cup a record five times but has not staged it since 1950. The country will have to rebuild many stadiums and improve its infrastructure. The last South American country to host the World Cup was Argentina in 1978.

FIFA's decision to award the 1994 tournament to the United States was based largely on big crowds for soccer at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and, Gulati said, faith in the USSF's ability to run a world-class tournament in an emerging soccer nation.

A bid for 2018, he said, is bolstered by the success of the 1994 event; two successful Women's World Cups; a growing TV audience for international matches; an established pro league in MLS; the emergence of the national team; and the availability of numerous new stadiums, such as those in Seattle, Houston, Tampa and Phoenix, to compete against 1994 host cities.

"We've got some history and a track record," said Gulati, a Columbia University economics professor who has been involved in U.S. soccer administration for more than 25 years and worked on the 1994 bid committee.

Gulati, who was elected USSF president last year, said FIFA was "very open" to the idea of a 2018 U.S. bid and that CONCACAF, the governing body for North and Central America and the Caribbean, was "very positive."

Men's B-Ball Tops UCCS in Nailbiter

Colorado School of Mines 76, UCCS 74



Courtesy CSM Athletics
Senior Franklin Ryk scored 7 points and a career high 10 rebounds on Saturday.

Courtesy CSM Athletics

The Colorado School of Mines men's basketball team moved into third place in the RMAC East Division with a 76-74 win over UC-Colorado Springs in Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference action Saturday night at the Lions Den.

CSM improved to 14-11 (8-9 RMAC), while the Mountain Lions fell to 14-10 (7-10 RMAC) with their seventh straight loss.

The Orediggers claimed a 42-30 lead at the half, but UCCS rallied the entire second half and tied the game at 60-60 with 6:54 to play. CSM led by three with five seconds to play after sophomore guard Kyle Pape nailed two free throws.

CSM Coach Pryor Orser elected to foul so UCCS could not get off a tying three-point attempt and the strategy worked. Nic Fuller hit the first free throw to make it 76-74 and missed the

second one intentionally. However, UCCS's Bly McGuire chased down the rebound and got off a shot before the buzzer that did not fall.

Senior forward Ian Elseth led CSM with 19 points and seven boards, while Pape finished with 17 points. Senior guard Franklin Ryk added seven points and a career-high 10 rebounds.

Fuller led UCCS with 17 points, while Kyle Perkins added 15.

The Orediggers continued their hot streak after winning 6 of their last 9.

CSM is currently ranked third in the RMAC East conference, falling behind Metro State and Nebraska-Kearney.

CSM will return to action on Friday night when it hosts Colorado Christian at 8:00 pm in Volk Gym.

CSM Baseball Falls to Central Washington, 16-14



Courtesy CSM Athletics

Sophomore left-fielder Stefan Revielle finished 2-for-6 Sunday

Courtesy CSM Athletics

The Colorado School of Mines baseball team fell to 2-6 with a 16-14 setback to Central Washington in nonconference action on Sunday night at CSU-Pueblo's Rawlings Field.

The Wildcats won the last three games of the series after CSM took Friday's opener.

CWU (5-1) claimed a 9-2 lead after three innings thanks to a seven run third inning in which six different players drove in a run. The Wildcats led 15-6 after seven, but CSM scored four runs in the eighth

and four more in the ninth, but the rally fell short.

CSM sophomore leftfielder Stefan Revielle finished 2-for-6 with three RBI, while freshman designated hitter Aaron Gremmer went 4-for-6 with an RBI.

Senior Matt Thome took the loss and fell to 1-1 this season, while David Jackson picked up the win (1-0) as he went five innings.

CSM will return to action next Saturday with a doubleheader at Fort Hays State. The first game is scheduled for 1:00 pm.

Upcoming ORC Events

Karate

Konrad Klett
Asst. Sports Editor

The annual Friendship Cup karate tournament was held at our very own Volk Gymnasium. Sensei Isao Gary Tsutsui hosted the event, held on Sunday, February 11. The tournament had one hundred twenty five competitors including US National Team members from the four corners region (California, Washington, Oregon, and Colorado). Mines had six competitors, most had never competed before, and two had never sparred before. There were three events, including kata, a prearranged series of techniques; kumite, point based fighting; and kobudo, traditional weapon forms. Our competitors did well with Jesse Forth placing third in kumite and Ginger Gilfillan placing third in kata.

FREE Gear Repair Workshop: Monday, February 26th
Spend an evening with the ORC's own gear repair guru. Learn all of his tricks as you learn how to repair tents, tent poles, clothing and much more. Feel free to bring specific questions regarding gear repair. This workshop is FREE and will take place at 7 pm at the ORC.

Discount Rental Weekend: Friday, March 2nd - Monday, March 5th
When you rent gear from Friday to Monday, you'll SAVE A BUNCH OF CASH and get the gear you need! For every \$5 you spend renting gear for the weekend you save a dollar. That's right, spend \$10 bucks but only pay \$8. It's that simple. This special is only good for Friday to Monday rentals. Don't miss out on this sweet deal!

Bouldering & Burritos: March 3rd
We'll head up to Boulder to the SPOT (one of two climbing gyms in America completely dedicated to bouldering) for some terrific bouldering followed by a stop for truly awesome burritos on the way back to Mines. Bouldering is a

great way to improve your climbing ability and also a fun way to get started for those new to climbing. All abilities welcome. Cost is \$5 and includes transportation, gear rental, and instruction. Sorry, you will have to pay for your own burritos. Registration deadline: Thursday 3/1 by 6 pm.

James Peak Summit Attempt: March 24th
Ever wanted to try a winter summit? Don't let the snow stop you from enjoying the outdoors. Come see the breath-taking views of the snow covered peaks. This hike/snowshoe trip is sure to be a memorable experience. This trip requires a high level of physical exertion; participants should be in good shape and have previous high altitude experience. Registration deadline: Wed. 3/21 by noon. There will be a mandatory pre-trip meeting the 3/21 at 9 pm. Cost: \$5

Bike Tune-Up Special: Monday April 2nd – Friday April 6th
Bring your bike in for a tune-up and save some cash. We are offering full bike tunes for only \$15 for one week only! Stop by whether you are riding a \$100 Huffy or a \$4,000 downhill bike. We'll be sure to give your ride lots of love. See our website for a complete description of what our tune-up includes. If you aren't sure if you need a tune or not check out our website; we also have a list of questions that should help you determine if your bike needs work. We will accept bikes all week long, however, we work on bikes on a first come first serve basis.

Discount Rental Weekend: Friday, April 6th- Monday, April 9th
When you rent gear from Friday to Monday, you'll SAVE A BUNCH OF CASH and get the gear you need! For every \$5 you spend renting gear for the weekend you save a dollar. That's right, spend \$10 bucks but only pay \$8. It's that simple. This special is only good for Friday to Monday rentals. Don't miss out on this sweet deal!

Mountaineering Slideshow: Explore Alaska & Washington: April 9th
ORC staff members have been on various National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) mountaineering expeditions including two to the Chugach Range in Alaska and one in North Cascade mountains of Washington. They will relate their experiences and show numerous pictures from various climbs. The students will also share their knowledge of NOLS and answer any questions related to NOLS. This slide show is FREE and will include door prizes. It will start at 7 pm and be held in the Student Center in Ballrooms A & B.

ORC Gear Swap: April 25th
Be apart of the ORC's second annual gear swap. We will be selling ORC gear and we invite you to sell or trade your unwanted equipment. This is a great opportunity to clean out your garage, basement or closet (the one where stuff falls out every time you open the door). Most outdoor sports gear is welcome; sell your old tents, sleeping bags, bikes, kayaks, nalgenes, skis, clothing or sports equipment. Exceptions include knives, motorized equipment and any flammable liquids. Equipment can be dropped off and priced between 11 am and 2 pm and equipment may be purchased between 2 pm and 6 pm. The Gear Swap will be held in the Student Center in Ballrooms A & B.

Mountaineering Workshop: April 14th – 15th
Don't miss one of our most exciting activities of the year. This trip is designed to teach students the basics of mountaineering. We will spend the first day teaching you how to use an ice axe, how to self arrest, walk with crampons and build snow anchors. That evening will be spent winter camping and learning how to stay warm in the mountains. The second day we will put our skills to work and attempt to summit a peak. This trip will get you prepped for lots of future ascents. Cost is \$10.00 and includes transportation, most gear needed,

and instruction. Registration deadline: Wed. 4/11 by noon; there is a mandatory pre-trip meeting 4/11 at 9 pm at the ORC.

FREE Basic Bike Maintenance Workshop: April 16th
This is the 1st in the series of Bike Maintenance Workshops we will offer this spring. This workshop will focus on the basics of bike maintenance. We will cover how to: change a tire, adjust your brakes, make minor derailleur adjustments and more. Feel free to bring your bike and ask specific questions regarding your ride. Our experienced mechanic will share his knowledge and tips to keep your bike in excellent condition. This workshop will begin at 7 pm and will be conducted at the ORC

Outdoor Rock Climbing: April 21st
Come with the ORC for a day of climbing and fun. We can teach you how to belay and introduce some climbing technique, or if you're an experienced climber just come and enjoy some fun in the sun. Transportation, equipment, and instruction will be provided for only \$5. All abilities are welcome. Registration deadline: Wednesday 4/18 by noon. There will be a mandatory pre-trip meeting for all participants 4/18 at 9:00 PM at the ORC.

FREE Advanced Bike Maintenance Workshop: April 23rd
This is the 2nd and final workshop in this series of Bike Maintenance Workshops we will offer this spring. This workshop will focus on techniques like bleeding disc brakes, derailleur adjustment and much more. Feel free to bring your bike and ask specific questions regarding your ride. Our experienced mechanic will share his knowledge and tips to keep your bike in excellent condition. This workshop will begin at 7 pm and will be conducted at the ORC.

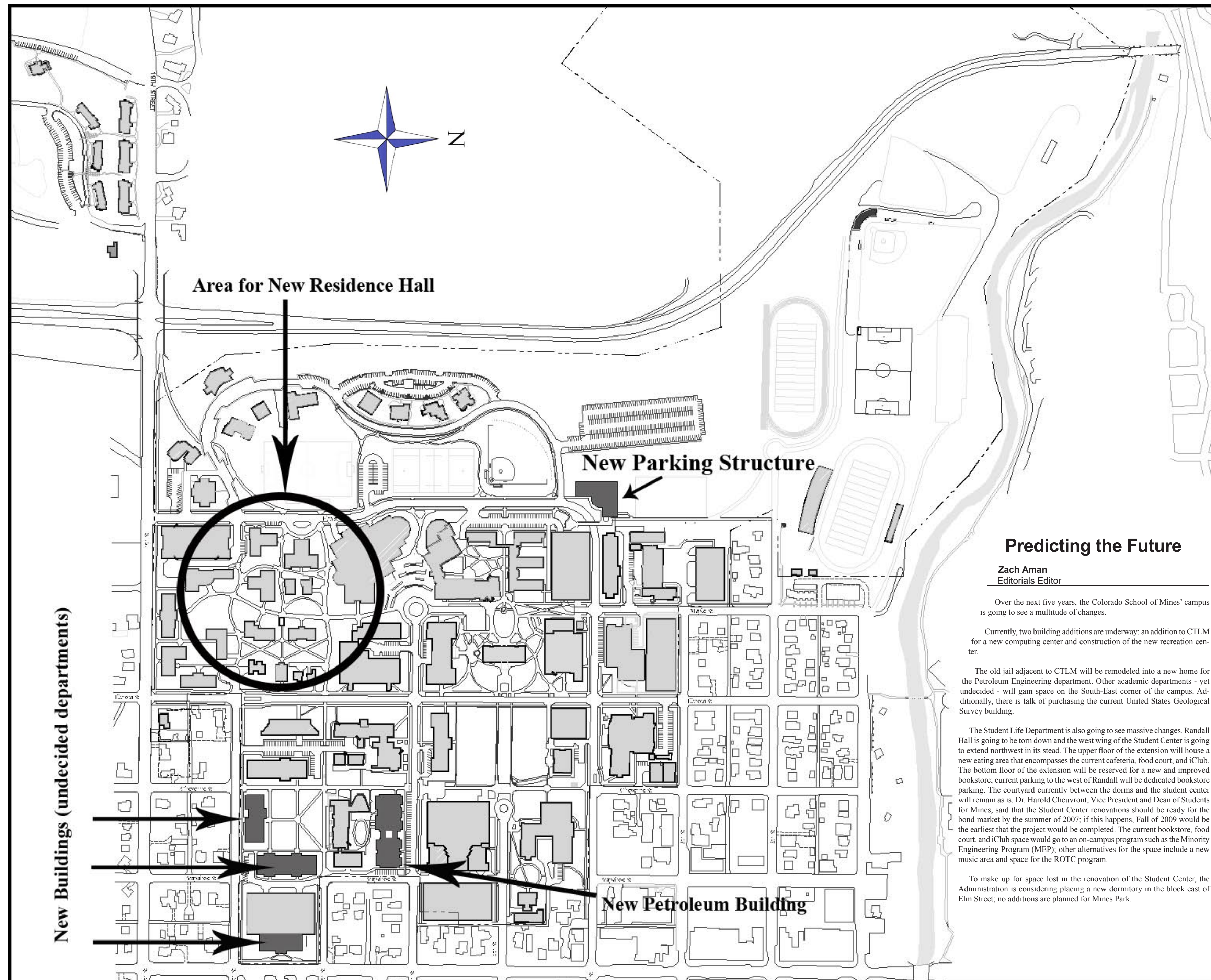
Mountain Biking Trip: April 28th
It would be hard not to enjoy biking through mountain meadows while

surrounded by the smell of ponderosa pines. This trip is designed for beginner and intermediate riders. The registration deadline for this trip is Wednesday April 25th at noon. This trip has a mandatory pre-trip meeting on the 4/25 at 9:00 PM at the ORC. Please bring your bike for a free bike safety check and learn all you need to know to be ready for the trip. Cost: \$5.

Whitewater Rafting: May 4th
Feeling good about your finals? Spend half of dead day rafting the Class II and III rapids on Clear Creek. This trip is a great way to loosen up before finals. The registration deadline is April 20th at noon and there will be a mandatory pre-trip meeting Tuesday May 1st at 9 pm at the ORC. The trip will depart from the ORC around 9 am and return around 3 pm. Cost for this trip is \$30.

Discount Rental Weekend: Friday, May 4th- Monday, May 7th
When you rent gear from Friday to Monday, you'll SAVE A BUNCH OF CASH and get the gear you need! For every \$5 you spend renting gear for the weekend you save a dollar. That's right, spend \$10 bucks but only pay \$8. It's that simple. This special is only good for Friday to Monday rentals. Don't miss out on this sweet deal!

Backpacking Weekend: May 11th – 13th
Join us for a weekend of fun in the backcountry. We will spend the weekend enjoying the freedom that comes with knowing that everything you need is on your back. We will spend Fri. and Sat nights camping



Predicting the Future

Zach Aman
Editorials Editor

Over the next five years, the Colorado School of Mines' campus is going to see a multitude of changes.

Currently, two building additions are underway: an addition to CTLM for a new computing center and construction of the new recreation center.

The old jail adjacent to CTLM will be remodeled into a new home for the Petroleum Engineering department. Other academic departments - yet undecided - will gain space on the South-East corner of the campus. Additionally, there is talk of purchasing the current United States Geological Survey building.

The Student Life Department is also going to see massive changes. Randall Hall is going to be torn down and the west wing of the Student Center is going to extend northwest in its stead. The upper floor of the extension will house a new eating area that encompasses the current cafeteria, food court, and iClub. The bottom floor of the extension will be reserved for a new and improved bookstore; current parking to the west of Randall will be dedicated bookstore parking. The courtyard currently between the dorms and the student center will remain as is. Dr. Harold Cheuvront, Vice President and Dean of Students for Mines, said that the Student Center renovations should be ready for the bond market by the summer of 2007; if this happens, Fall of 2009 would be the earliest that the project would be completed. The current bookstore, food court, and iClub space would go to an on-campus program such as the Minority Engineering Program (MEP); other alternatives for the space include a new music area and space for the ROTC program.

To make up for space lost in the renovation of the Student Center, the Administration is considering placing a new dormitory in the block east of Elm Street; no additions are planned for Mines Park.

The Master Plan



THE  OREDIGGER



ditorials

The Oredigger is a designated public forum. Student editors have the authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval.

oredig@mines.edu

Zach Aman, *Editorials Editor*
Jason Fish, *News Editor*

Iran At War?

Disabling the Nuclear Threat

Iran has a largely pro-western population with an Islamic-Fascist government. Any action, be it sanctions, air-strikes, or invasion, will have negative repercussions with this fragile population. They do not hate us as much as they hate Israel. We should use this to our advantage and call on Israel to conduct air-strikes to disable this nuclear threat. It has worked in the past. While an internal Iranian revolution would be preferred, we can count on Israel to stand up as the UN fails like it has in every past endeavor.



Improving McBride

A Great Program With Room to Improve

Hilary Brown
Features Editor

The McBride Honors program is a unique opportunity for students on the Mines campus. In just three and a half years, students receive a minor in Public Affairs. To get the minor, students must take one McBride seminar each semester. The seminars follow a specific trajectory and each group of students, with few exceptions, stays together for all three and a half years.

As a student in the McBride program, I know the advantages of the program (and the disadvantages). The program has a noble goal: "...to explore the interfaces between their areas of technical expertise and the humanities and social sciences; to gain the sensitivity to project and test the moral and social implications of their future professional judgments and activities; and to foster their leadership abilities in preparation for managing change and promoting the general welfare in an evolving technological and global context."

McBride is not for everyone, as the fact that one third of the original junior class has dropped the program certainly suggests. With recent reformatting under interim leadership, I have some suggestions for change. (As an aside, I've discussed these points extensively with my classroom representatives to the program leadership. Furthermore, I've been informed by them that any criticism of current changes is not well tolerated.)

First of all, why don't we have moderators who are experts in their fields? Of twenty-eight moderators, only two are LAIS professors. I've been in seminars with moderators that were all science professors. If "pure technical problems do not exist- only those embedded in political, cultural, ethical, and moral

problems," why do we only have pure technical moderators?

Each seminar should have at least one moderator who is an expert in their field, whether from the LAIS department or another university, though preference should be to Mines professors. The other moderators should offer a variety of perspectives to students. The best class I took in McBride was taught by a Chemical Engineering professor, a local lawyer, and a politician. I developed more in that class than I have in any class since because the moderators were knowledgeable, challenging, and inspiring.



Guy T. McBride Jr., founder of the McBride Honors Program and former President of Mines

Secondly, why are there no class choices? I find it frustrating that I've "sold" all my electives to McBride, when I really want to take different LAIS classes. I propose that two classes be combined so that there is one semester when students are given a choice of elective from the LAIS department. I'm beginning to be bored with my classes because the same twenty people are in them each semester, and it would be nice to see some fresh faces.

Third, why is the trip after junior year? If students are planning on working after graduating, the summer after junior year is when they must

get internships. And, although internships can be substituted for the trip, it isn't fair that students must choose between an internship and studying and visiting China, for example.

Furthermore, an entire semester is a long time to study a country. I suggest that the Cultural Anthropology class be moved to second semester sophomore year and be combined with the Foreign Area study. This would free up a semester for an elective and tie two topics together much better than they currently are.

Fourth, why are the freshman classes being eliminated? When I entered the program, we chose between three different treatments of the Paradoxes of the Human Condition. I chose Literature and others chose Performing Arts or Culture. Now, students have no choice and are forced to take the Culture option. They have no opportunity to explore the paradoxes through the topics that they enjoy.

This is the most distressing of the changes that I've seen. Among my fellow McBride students, those of us who were in either the Literature or Performing Arts sections routinely lament how much we loved those classes and how it seems to have gone downhill. I've never heard such comments from those who took the Culture section.

With the time ripe for change, I am not against changes in the program. I do think, however, that any changes must improve the program. Those of us who are in the program know which classes are worth our time and which aren't. We know which moderators challenge us and force us to grow intellectually and which moderators let us get away with doing nothing. Listen to us. We know what's good about the program and what could use improvement. Let us improve the program together!

Duffy's Corner

Kevin Duffy
Staff Writer

The long standing tradition of academic tenure in the university is an archaic and irresponsible policy. Once a necessary and noble system of protecting academic freedoms, it now serves to create a culture of elitism. The idea that one's position in academia is forever secured above a safety net of legal loopholes and propaganda is borderline Marxist. Academic tenure is an inherently unfair and undemocratic system of employment.

Many will argue that the prestige and privilege of being a tenured faculty member is justified by the rigorous selection process. The university only offers tenure-track appointments to the most qualified and promising professors; those who show commitment to both the school and the students. Once on this track, they must still jump through a litany of hoops and obstacles in order to achieve the prestigious designation. The integrity of the selection process is not being questioned, however; what happens afterwards is.

The prevailing wisdom over the last three centuries is that capitalism fuels innovation. That innovation is cultivated in the realm of fierce competition.

When my colleagues and I graduate from CSM, the vast majority of us will venture into private industry. Whatever journey life takes us on, we will all be held accountable for our work, our actions, and our results. No one in this world is willing to write a blank check and simply say; "Go for it." We as individuals must continually prove that we are up to the challenge and earn the monetary and societal respect of others through our hard work.

What if, on your first day on the job, you were told that it was a lifetime appointment. No matter what you did, positive or negative, nothing short of committing a crime would affect your employment until you retire. Your initially naïve idealism would mandate your best engineering effort as you worked on your first several projects. Eventually you would become jaded by a system that ultimately rewards sloth and idleness over results. In short, I am describing the economic failings of communism: no one is ever held accountable and no one is ever given incentives for greatness.

The analogy is not too far off track with the current state of academic tenure nationwide. The prevailing norm on most campuses is one of working as hard as possible to achieve tenure and then riding the money train until retirement. The checks and balance of the system simply do not function.

CSM is very fortunate in that the very nature of science and engineering mandates an academic community of respect, clarity, and responsibility. The specific rules and regulations regarding academic tenure at Mines can be used to illuminate the various logical fallacies in the institution of Academic Tenure.

Section 9.4.1 of the "CSM Faculty Handbook" lists eight direct actions that would result in the termination of academic tenure. Six of the eight deal with blatantly illegal activities such as sexual harassment and violation of Colorado's justice code. Two of the eight, however, demonstrate the grey area: "(2) a pattern of unfair or abusive treatment of CSM students; (3) consistently substandard performance" (CSM Faculty Handbook 9.4.1) After feeling some hope for accountability, I turn to the next page only to find a detailed list of revocation proceedings that undoubtedly take years to see administrative action, complete with an appeals process that brings the trial back to square one.

These loosely defined processes are backed up with a cage full of paper tigers. Professors know that they can get away with substandard performance because the legal construct presents administrators with an unrealistic framework in which to take action against misconduct. Thus it often simply easier to go about "business as usual" than to question the circumstances of the community.

Herein lies the culture of elitism that exists within universities. The explanation is ultimately structural. People act and make decisions based on the predefined social system that existed prior to their arrival. The individual can of course choose to rise above and change the relationships that exist in the structure, but will be met with intense adversity. Furthermore, the people in power generally benefit the most from the structure and are the least likely to change their role in the community. Without somebody to provoke change, the current academic system will always stay in place.

Academic tenure has long been the "White Elephant" in the room. No one will mention it because it strikes a myriad of responses in both students and faculty alike. Academia is founded on the ideal of free thought, critical thinking, and discovering the world around us. If within the confines of the coveted halls of higher education we cannot question the very institutions that define us, then perhaps the fulfillment of such ideals is ultimately lacking.

Please send Duffy your local concerns: kduffy@mines.edu.

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Why We Must Not Go

Keeping the Lid on Pandora's Box

Sara Post
Copy Editor

We're at it again. The administration is insisting that it has no intention of attacking Iran, and the press won't let the story go.

Search it, and you might find a conservative pundit discussing the necessity of protecting ourselves from a nuclear threat, which Iran may someday be. You might find a liberal talk show host enlarging upon the theme of wars based on lies and "spinning." Look on a website for almost any Middle Eastern news source and you will probably find an editorial claiming that it is all an Israeli plot.

In the end, there is only one possible viable reason for going to Iran with violent intention: proven nuclear weaponry.

Quite frankly, however, the odds of this happening are fairly small. And if we really wanted to prevent it, we'd get closer to the root of the problem by making war on Russia. That's who's building a \$1 billion nuclear reactor in Iran, not Iranians. Let's face it - Iran does not have the economic, educational, or innovative infrastructure to develop nuclear capabilities on its own. A full 80% of that country's export is petroleum, followed closely by petrochemicals. At current production, it will take roughly 95 years to empty the proven reserves of oil, but it will also be progressively more



A Picture of Iran's Nuclear Construction Site/Courtesy GlobalSecurity.org

difficult to remove and refine. 40% of Iranians live below the poverty line, and 11% of them are unemployed. People will not live in those conditions forever, especially people that have experienced a certain degree of reform in the past, as Iran did in the late nineties.

As you may have read earlier, Iranian scientists announced a potential cure for AIDS several weeks ago. You may have also read David Frossard's comment about

the reasons that volatile countries announce "cures" for diseases such as AIDS.

It is not a stretch to say that Ahmedinajad and Khamenei are looking for ways to cement their control of Iran. The United States should leave this be: Iraq and Afghanistan require as many troops as we can give them, and the last thing the Bush administration should do in its last two years is start another expensive and difficult war in an already unstable region.

Mixing the Grammy's

Staff

The Grammys are always a mixed bag for me. I'm never fully satisfied after parting with my television. Seeing the Dixie Chicks clean up Sunday night's ceremony with their album of the year recognition left me feeling pretty bummed. After all, rock was statistically short-changed (Gnarls Barkley, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and John Mayer occupied three of the five album of the year nominations). However, 2007's Grammy night wasn't a total bust. The Red Hot Chili Peppers' *Stadium Arcadium*, released last May, earned a golden statuette for rock album of the year. For once, I can say with full confidence that I completely agree with the voting members of the Academy and their decision. In an age where music enthusiasts must wait several years for a band's upcoming single album release, the Chilis dished out an astonishing 123 minutes worth of new material four years following their previous studio release *By the Way*. The 28-song collection, free of fluff and filler tracks, is a very complete

representation of what the band has accomplished over the past two decades. Slower pop-rock compositions, similar to the sound of "Californication" and "By the Way," stand alongside funky jams that are reminiscent of their drugged-out punk-funk era of the 1980s. Each of the four band members really shine through on *Stadium*, Anthony's poetic wordplay is top notch, John's minimalist guitar wailing is very powerful, Flea's bass lines haven't sounded this funky since 1992's *Blood Sugar Sex Magik*, and Chad's tight beats serve as the backbone for all of these great tunes. If you're new to the Red Hot Chili Peppers, their latest release is a great place to start in terms of the band's discography. Finally, the Grammys have honored a great work of art. While the Chilis deserve their award, one question remains. Where the hell was Pearl Jam's self-titled album on that list of nominations?! They gave an American Idol winner several Grammy nods, yet snubbed the only Seattle grunge band left standing. By now we've come full circle: the Grammys are always a mixed bag.

What's Your Beef With Mines?

ASCSM President Casey Morse Answers Your Questions

Beef: The MAC Movie was 15 minutes late and the popcorn machine was squealing the whole time.

Response: We apologize for the late start of the movie. We will work toward getting that started on time at the next showing by starting the set-up a little earlier. The popcorn machine is broken right now, and we are also currently fixing it.

Beef: We need more girls here.

Response: This type of beef is becoming quite commonplace. According to the most recent admissions report, 5600 students have applied to CSM. Of those 5600, only 1400 are female. We can only accept

qualified students, and we have already accepted about 800 girls (which is how many total girls are at CSM right now). We have also accepted about 2100 males (the retention rate is about 30%). There are some plans in the making to increase female interest in the school, such as the possible introduction of a biology department. The administration is working hard to improve this diversity issue.

Hopefully the ratio will be significantly different in only a couple of years.

Beef: The removed part of Maple St. in front of the Student Center: Will we get that piece of road back?

Response: Upon completion of the Rec. Center, Ma-

ple St. will continue into the cul-de-sac in front of the Rec. Center and turn into 16th St. Maple St. will no longer continue south past the Rec. Center, and 16th St. will no longer continue west past the Rec. Center, because the building takes up that space, but paths will be put in for pedestrian travel in their stead.

Beef: No one smiles on campus.

Response: What I have found is that if I smile at someone as they walk by, they typically smile back. So if you all make a conscious effort to smile more on campus, it will be contagious.

Beef: Parking on Campus Sucks!

Response: This has definitely been a topic of concern for some time now. The snow and construction are only perpetuating the problem at this point. When the Rec. Center is done, we will be able to park in the IM Lot again, and about 90 spaces will open up in the Freshman Lots also. Another solution we have been working on is getting a sort of local "shuttle service." Students on the Sustainability Committee have been working with public officials in Golden, the campus architect, and employees of RTD to coordinate

routes and get federal grants to support a local bus system. If we can get the town of Golden to help draft up proposals, this bus system would be funded half by federal grants and half by RTD, and therefore free of charge to students! President Scoggins did a study earlier this year and found that on an average day during peak hours, approximately 300 parking spaces were open on campus. About 90 of those were spaces near the sorority houses.

Beef: Is it true you get paid to do this? WTF?

Response: Yes, it is true. The payment adds accountability to the office of ASCSM President. As it stands, there is no mechanism to assure accountability of the President. The council is responsible for allocating that money. They voted to have me paid. They can vote to have my payment stop any time they wish. In addition, I do about 7 or 8 office hours a week (typically MWF 9:00 – 11:00 and TR 1:00 – 2:00).

Beef: Will graduating seniors be reimbursed for Rec. Center Fees?

Response: All students have been paying a general Rec. Center Fee of about \$55 for 5 years now. That was a student decision several years ago. Students will continue to pay that one, but the additional \$30 that was added on this semester to cover use of the Rec. Center will be reimbursed.



How to Get that *First* Date

If You Don't Have Those Social Skills, You're Going to Need a Wardrobe...

Zach Aman, Editorials Editor
Sara Post, Copy Editor

Gentlemen! We understand that you don't want to put down World of Warcraft for any longer than necessary, so we've decided to help you out. Most guys rely on strong sports skills or fascinating conversation to get that date, but, unfortunately, most guys at Mines offer neither of these advantages.

If we consider the pre-30 dating scene to be a zero-sum balance, then we realize that we must offset these severely negative features. A stylish set of threads can bring the world right-side up again.

In lieu of this realization, we offer the following tidbits of advice.

Personal Hygiene

- *Shower every day* - you might not notice that odor, but everybody else does

- *Brush your teeth* - yellow may be cool to wear, but it's gross in your mouth

- *Wear deodorant* - how do you think you're going to get close to a female if you stink?

- *Brush your teeth!* - again!

- *Comb your hair* - mop tops went out in the 50s

- *Shave occasionally* - only REAL mountain men look cool with shrubbery on their face

- *Take care of your skin* - nobody wants to look at the surface of Mars

- *Clip those fingernails* - this isn't a biology lab

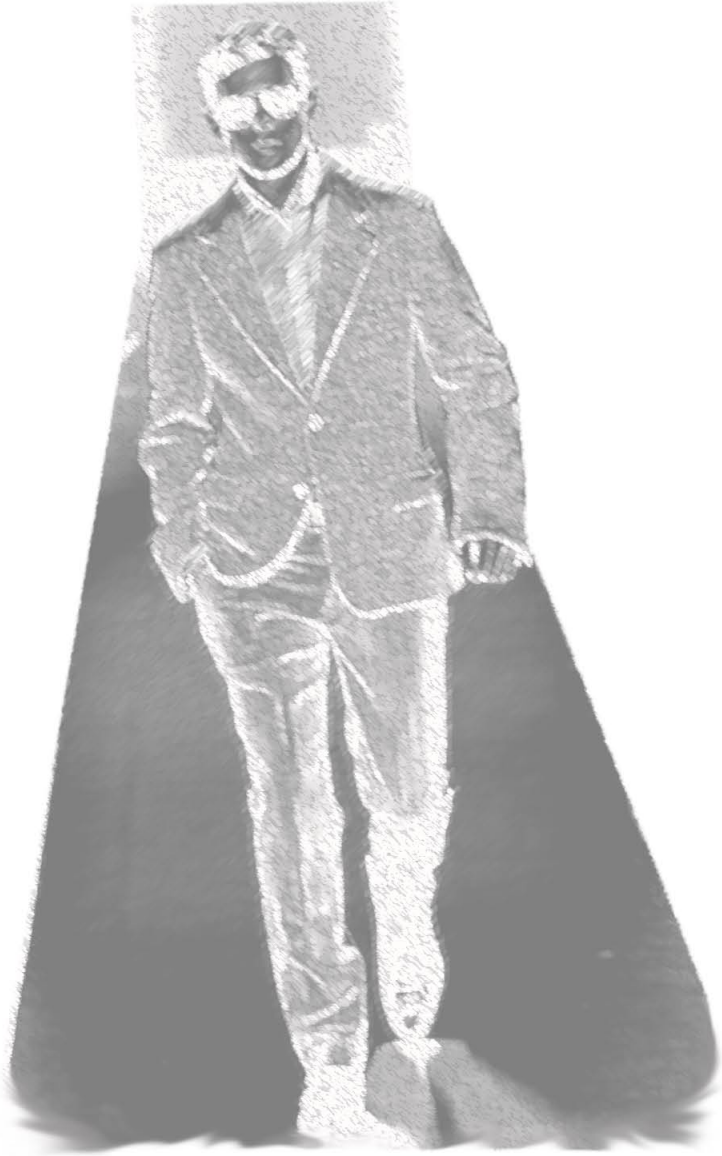
- *Wear cologne* - apply it lightly and you'll be amazed at what happens (remember the Axe effect?)

Biggies (Don't Ever Screw These Up)

- *Socks and Sandals* - they look dumb and they make you look dumb, so avoid them

- *Toenails* - if you're going to wear sandals, clip your toenails!

- *Don't stare downward* - you have to at least give the *impression* that you're interested in what she thinks, okay?



Clothing (for the Twig)

- *Horizontal strips rule* - just as women don't really want to date a watermelon, they don't want a wimpy-looking tree, either. Horizontal stripes will make you appear more balanced

- *Avoid monochrome* - you're tall, remember? You want to break that mass up and look a little more proportional. Drawing attention to your mid-section is a good thing in this department (and we won't go into where else it might be helpful)

- *Wear fitted clothing* - we're not advocating Richard Simmons here, but you can probably pull off something a little more snug. So, for the love of God, wear clothes that fit.

- *Avoid tapered jeans* - since "emo" kids are usually skinny, we'd like to draw your attention to the fact that it looks bad - what's more, it looks *stupid*. We know you have "issues," but don't let that be apparent in your clothing, okay?

General Tips for All

- *Clean clothing* - don't get us started. It's a must.

- *Slim Ties* - we're officially issuing the FYI: slim ties are in and "normal" ties are out. Don't screw up.

- *Match your belt and shoes*

- *Wear scarves* - they can work wonders in an outfit

- *Invest in 1 or 2 pair of high-end jeans* - they might be expensive but they'll last longer and they'll probably get you some action (fat people need not take heed)

- *Plain shirt? Wear a bold tie*

- *Stand up straight* - this isn't Boulder, it's Mines

- *No more novelty accessories* - smiley faces on socks don't work

Clothing (for the Oompa-Loompa body type)

- *Verticle stipes rule* - they'll thin you out visually (they don't, however, replace a damn treadmill)

- *Go monochrome* - if you have polar colors on your top and bottom, you're drawing attention to your mid-section (obviously, this *isn't* what you want). Instead, think about using multiple shades of the same color

- *Don't ever - EVER - wear tight clothes* - you don't have to look at yourself all day, we DO

- *Don't ever - EVER - wear overly baggy clothes* - there's a happy medium to clothing, if you wear clothes that are too big for you, you're going to look *too big for you*

- *Avoid "BIG" prints on clothing* - remember, we're shooting for the small look - a giant pot leaf, albeit interesting, isn't going to shrink your size



Former Playboy Model Dies

Smith's life ends after she collapses in Florida hotel

Andrew Aschenbrenner
Entertainment Editor

The American soap opera that was Anna Nicole Smith experienced another tragedy on February 8th, as Smith, 39, died after collapsing in a Florida hotel.

Smith, born Vickie Lynn Hogan, had been a frequent tabloid feature since she became a Guess jeans model and was named Playmate of the Year in 1993. She married 89-year old billionaire J. Howard Marshall II in 1994 at age 26, and he died 14 months later, setting off a legal battle with Marshall's son for her share of his estate. She gave birth to daughter Dannielynn last fall, and around the same time, her son died of an apparent drug overdose.

The paternity of her daughter is uncertain, and although Smith insisted that the father was her attorney, Howard K. Stern, her former boyfriend has sued alleging that he is the father. Since her death, there has been a tabloid claim that her daughter was conceived with frozen sperm from her late husband J. Howard Marshall, and also a claim from the husband of actress Zsa Zsa Gabor that he could be the father. A judge ordered a paternity test just a day before her death, but that has not happened. Smith's body



Courtesy Associated Press
was embalmed February 17th.

Most people around her said she wanted to be like Marilyn Monroe, but Smith made headlines because she was a self-made pop culture figure.

She started poor, and used her looks and possibly some hidden smarts to marry Marshall, win a legal battle for \$474 million of his estate, start a reality-tv series, and show off a likely exaggerated version of what she was. The Los Angeles Times said it best: "...Smith's high-profile life became a self-perpetuating media machine."

Media loved her because her story was bigger than normal life. She was blond, attractive, and had her own "American dream." She also was far from perfect. It's possible that her greatest success was in attracting attention. Anna Nicole Smith was a train wreck: it's hard to watch, but harder not to.

More than Espionage

Breach captures unique angle in story of FBI spy Hanssen

Andrew Aschenbrenner
Entertainment Editor

Former FBI Special Agent Robert Philip Hanssen is considered to be the most damaging spy in U.S. history. He spent almost 22 years engaged in espionage, passing classified information to the KGB and its successor agency. Now, he is spending a life sentence without possibility of parole at the Supermax prison in Florence, CO, where he spends 23 hours a day in solitary confinement. Universal Pictures' new movie *Breach* is based on the story of Hanssen's capture.

Breach probably could not be considered a thriller, even though it is categorized as one, because it is not fast-paced. There is definitely suspense and surprise, but it is by no means an edge-of-your-seat thriller. Its strength is in its portrayal of Hanssen. Played by Chris Cooper, the character of Robert Hanssen is at minimum fascinating. Even after taking into account that the movie probably fictionalizes events, the questions about Hanssen flow as he interacts with Eric O'Neill, an FBI surveillance specialist who is assigned to get close to Hanssen.

Hanssen is depicted as very observant, and good at detecting lies. Sexual deviance actually occurred, but the movie leaves that alone for the most part, instead focusing on his character as a spy. He is a strong Catholic, and this frequently plays a part as O'Neill works to get

him to incriminate himself. Hanssen's character is also a bit of a mystery, and it is partly the unanswered question of why he did what he did that makes this movie so great.

The movie begins with an archived video clip of then-Attorney General John Ashcroft announcing Hanssen's arrest. From there, you flash back two months and meet O'Neill, played surprisingly well by Ryan Phillippe. At first, he is led to believe that the reason the FBI is investigating is because Hanssen is a sexual deviant. Eric comes to trust Hanssen, and he is shocked to learn that the FBI knows that Hanssen is a spy selling secrets under the code name Ramon.

O'Neill never really understands Hanssen, but he builds trust with him by going along with his religious adherence and his cynicism towards the structure of the FBI and the government. Even better, he finds a way to throw Hanssen's insecurity back at him, and through this he is able to get Hanssen to make the incriminating drop.

What sets *Breach* apart from other spy movies and especially from other movies based on actual events is that the story is unpredictable. There's no formula being followed, and not much



Courtesy Associated Press

espionage occurs in the movie. *Breach* compels you to think, but doesn't give you answers. It gives you an unconventional suspense that is refreshing when most of the movies at the box office are full of recycled material.

In the end, *Breach* is much more than just the story of what the Department of Justice called "possibly the worst intelligence disaster in U.S. history." It is more than just Eric O'Neill gathering evidence to put Robert Hanssen in jail. It is more than an agent with 25 years of service in the FBI and 22 years of selling secrets to Russia and the former Soviet Union. It weighs in on the "why?" question without leaning towards an answer. The incredible performance of Chris Cooper is what leaves the motive a mystery.

Breach is a movie that goes above and beyond the standard, and it is worth every penny of the \$9.50 at the movie theater. Go see it. You won't be sorry.

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Perdido en el Laberinto

Konrad Klett
Asst. Sports Editor

If you haven't seen *Pan's Labyrinth* yet, you need to stop reading this and go immediately. It is bloody well amazing.

The film, nominated for a Best Foreign Film at the Oscars, is set in 1944 Spain just before the end of World War II. The main plot follows a little girl named Ofelia who finds a labyrinth while exploring. Ofelia is upset that her mother has remarried, and she uses fantasy to merge her world and the world of a faun. In this world, her name is Princess Moanna and she must complete tasks to escape earth.

Director Guillermo del Toro expertly mixes in social commentary about the war between the communist rebels and the fascist Franco-led Spanish government as well. Either plotline would have done fine as its own movie but combined it was excellent. Unlike most movies in which the main character is a child, there are no overdone stunts such as a little girl beating up a fully grown man. Instead, there is a very strong-willed and smart character, played by a good actress in a "realistic" way. I put realistic in quotes because the story is, after all, about magic.

Despite the fact that the movie is about magic, it is very "real" magic. You actually feel that this stuff could be happening. The effects are of



Courtesy impawards.com

great quality and done in precisely the right amount, not too little, not too much. Plus, the good acting extends beyond the main character to include the supporting cast, who all play interesting and believable characters as well. The movie is violent and could be considered scary, so if you are going to bring children to see this because it has a little girl and magic, think twice. It earns its R rating with language too, although it is all subtitled.

If at all possible, see this movie drunk or high as it will mess with your head in a positively delightful way. If you don't like reading subtitles, you can get over it because the beauty of the Spanish language only makes the movie that much better.

Arriving Shortly

Chase Hoffman
Asst. Editor-in-Chief

February 23rd

The Abandoned
Lions Gate Films
Horror
Rated R

Starring: Anastasia Hille, Karel Roden, Valentin Goshev
Directed by Nacho Cerdá
Summary: Trying to dig the past about her dead parents, Marie (Hille) finds a house in the middle of a Russian forest where her parents were supposedly killed. This house, haunted by the murders, seeks to kill her along with her twin brother, who she finds at the house.
Impression: There might a few little twisted parts and such that are unique, but the overall plot is a straight forward formula. Considering the fact that *The Number 23* is coming out this weekend, I suggest investing your dollars towards that one instead.



Courtesy impawards.com

Reno 911!: Miami
20th Century Fox
Comedy
Rated R

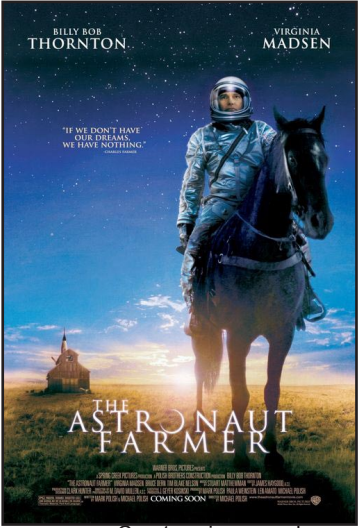
Starring: Thomas Lennon, Ben Garant, Keri Kenney
Directed by Ben Garant (also directs the TV series *Reno 911!*)
Summary: The Reno police force has been invited, like many other police forces, to a convention in Miami. When a terrorist plot takes the standard Miami Police out of the equation, the Reno crew has to patrol a whole new area.
Impression: This is pretty cut and dry on what to expect. The same people and director are involved. Expect the TV series, except you can't watch this episode in your underwear.

The Number 23
New Line Cinema
Horror/Drama
Rated R

Starring: Jim Carrey, Virginia Madsen
Directed by Joel Schumacher (also directed *Phone Booth*)
Summary: Walter Sparrow (Carrey) finds a strange book that seems to talk about his life. At the end of the book, it describes a great tragedy that has yet to happen to Walter. Meanwhile, he's trying to uncover the darkness and meaning of the number 23.
Impression: Remember that film,

One Hour Photo starring Robin Williams? Well that was a creepy thriller and there were some doubts about it beforehand. I think Carrey can use his zany-ness to really hit this one out of the park.

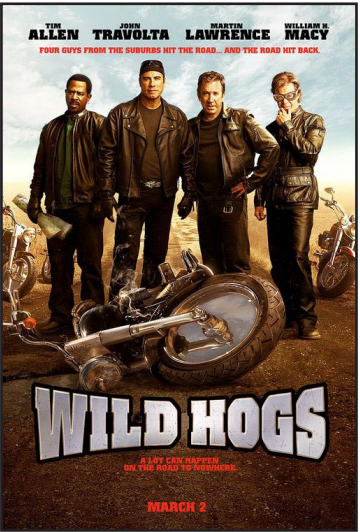
The Astronaut Farmer



Courtesy impawards.com

Warner Bros. Pictures
Drama/Comedy
Rated PG

Starring: Billy Bob Thornton, Virginia Madsen
Directed by Michael Polish
Summary: Charles Farmer (Thornton) has always dreamed of becoming an astronaut. Having a family and farm to take care of has always prevented him from staying with NASA. Using his aerospace degree, he's building his own rocket so that he can launch himself into space with his family as the crew.
Impression: This will be one of those cute little pick-me-up films that makes you feel like 'you could take on the world.' Well, I think this is a worn out formula and it'll be sort of boring.



Courtesy impawards.com

March 2nd

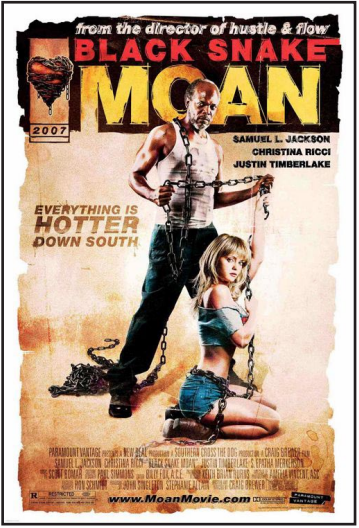
Wild Hogs
Touchstone Pictures
Comedy
Rated PG-13

Starring: Tim Allen, John Travolta, Martin Lawrence, William H. Macy
Directed by Walt Becker (also directed *Van Wilder*)
Summary: Four men near their mid-life crises decide to take a road trip on some hogs. As badass as

they try to be, they are green horns through and through.
Impression: This film is very much wysiwyg (what you see is what you get). It's gonna be corny humor, but good for a few laughs.

Zodiac
Paramount
Pictures
Horror
Rated R

Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Robert Downey Jr., Mark Ruffalo
Directed by David Fincher (also directed *Se7en* and *Fight Club*)
Summary: Two reporters (Gyllenhaal, Ruffalo) along with a homicide detective (Downey Jr.) are attempting to track down an eccentric serial killer.
Impression: The plot is very much a prototypical serial killer horror flick, but there are some bonuses to consider. David Fincher has a great resume for movies like this and the cast is above par. Worth your

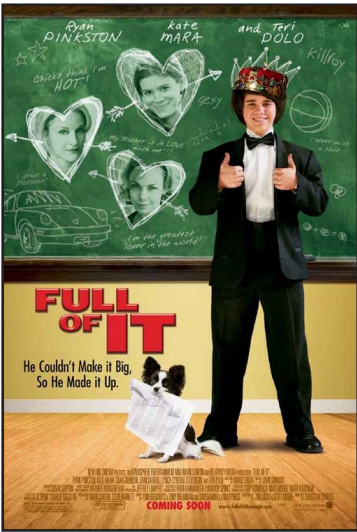


Courtesy impawards.com

Black Snake Moan
Paramount Vantage
Drama
Rated R

Starring: Samuel L. Jackson, Christina Ricci
Directed by Craig Brewer (also directed *Hustle & Flow*)

Summary: God-fearing southern farmer (Jackson) finds Rae (Ricci) beaten and bloodied on the side of the road. Out of compassion, he aids her, but takes an unorthodox approach. He chains her inside his house with the aims of 'curing her wickedness.'
Impression: There are some good factors at play here. We've got a great cast, a decent director and unique plot. Generally speaking, that's what you need to have a good movie.



Courtesy impawards.com

Full of it
New Line Cinema
Drama/Comedy
Rated PG-13

Starring: Ryan Pinkston, Kate Mara, Teri Polo
Directed by Christian Charles
Summary: A pathetic freshman is trying to fit in so he does the most logical thing any teenager could think of: lie. The twist comes when his lies become truths and he has a whole new dimension of problems.
Impression: The plot is pretty weak and I think these actors are sub-par. But I might see it just for the scene with the hot teacher lusting for her student.

Reel Geek

A film geek writes about geeks on film

Jen Schneider
Columnist

Did you know that Mines is hosting Climate Action Days this year, on April 19 and 20? Sponsored by the CSM Sustainability Committee, the Climate Action Day committee states that its agenda is two-fold: "First, we want to communicate to the CSM and Golden community the magnitude and the severity of the impending climate crisis. Second, we want to show the CSM students that they hold exactly the right set of technical skills to implement the necessary changes. The engineers and scientists we are training today will be the innovators and problem-solvers who will be most active in addressing global climate change tomorrow."

This got me thinking about how environmental change and crises get represented in the movies. Drastic environmental change has long been a part of the science fiction genre. Typically, the dystopias of films like Fritz Lang's 1927 *Metropolis* and Ridley Scott's 1982 *Bladerunner* have featured over-developed cityscapes, places of hard edges and imposing billboards, with nary a tree to be found. But the environment in these movies is typically a backdrop, a reflection of larger concerns having to do with the development of technology.

In other words, the environment has always been a character in movies. But until recently, it was a bit player. Now, I would argue, the environment is a "star" in its own right, forcing its way from the edges of our consciousness and into the spotlight.

A lot of this is thanks to the incredible spate of documentaries

being produced about environmental issues, I think. Some of these are questionably alarmist--overly propagandistic and off-putting, like the 2004 Bullfrog doc *Life Running out of Control*, which gives such a broad and yet one-sided treatment of bioengineering ethics as to be ineffectual.

But other films, though featuring strong ideological perspectives, are quite compelling. Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* (2006) and Chris Paine's *Who Killed the Electric Car?* (2006) are fascinating, heartbreaking, motivating pieces of work. I wish everyone would see these films and discuss them; though both have decidedly liberal bents, I think they are excellent examples of the power of film to spur democratic discussions of science policy and its effects, for people of all political beliefs.

As I was thinking about the upcoming Climate Action Days, I was also thinking about the way Hollywood feature films portray environmental crisis and environmentalists. Years ago, I started showing the old sci-fi thriller *Soylent Green* (1973) in my Nature and Human Values classes. Students seemed to like mocking the cheesy dialog and the depiction of New York City, post-environmental crisis (basically the only food left on the planet is harvested from plankton--the rest of the environment has been ravaged due to overpopulation).

What's interesting, though, is that student reactions to this movie have changed over time. Students are laughing less at the ridiculousness of the premise; they find the

idea of an environmental apocalypse less absurd than they did before. The same goes when I show the film *The Day after Tomorrow* (2004). The so-called "science" in the film is ridiculous, the sort of pseudo-science that Hollywood loves to pepper its science fiction films with. But the idea that a city could be wiped out by a giant tidal wave--after we've witnessed the disasters of the Southeast Asian tsunami and the Hurricane Katrina here--doesn't seem quite so far-fetched. Again, students are laughing less, or at least less loudly.

But that doesn't mean there isn't room to laugh at ourselves. Have you seen *Idiocracy* (2006)? *I Heart Huckabees* (2004)? Or *Human Nature* (2001)? Or *Safe* (1995)? There are plenty of ways to think about what it means to protect our environment, or to protect ourselves from the environment, many of them humorous. Those at the extremes of the ideological spectrum will always find themselves the subject of satire, and this is a good thing. We need the edges to be clearly marked and spread widely, so that there is much room for debate in the middle.

Mostly, I hope we continue to get more portrayals of environmental issues and environmentalism in the movies, and that they will represent a spectrum of ideological stances, artistic approaches, and pressing issues. Because I believe movies have the power to shape the way we see the world, and until we start seeing the world as a main character and not just a bit player, it's going to be hard to make decisions about how we'll protect it.

Fool's Gold

SCANDAL! Death of Scrooge McDuck Leaves Fortune to Nephews

Donald set to be legal guardian; Launchpad claims to be real father

Chase Hoffman
Duckberg Times

Duckberg, Calisota - Scrooge McDuck passed away last Thursday afternoon while swimming in his vault, known as the Money Bin. Preliminary evaluations by the Duckberg paramedics show evidence that he died of asphyxiation from several coins. Friends and family joined in mourning during Sunday's funeral held in Duckberg.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Scrooge came from impoverished parents Fergus McDuck and Downey O'Drake. To help support his family, Scrooge became a shoe polisher where he earned his famed Number One Dime. In order to increase his earnings, Scrooge became a cabin boy for a merchant ship headed to New Orleans. Moving from job to job and learning many skills, Scrooge was never formally educated but made his fortunes when he got into the mining industry and then treasure hunting. He eventually earned the

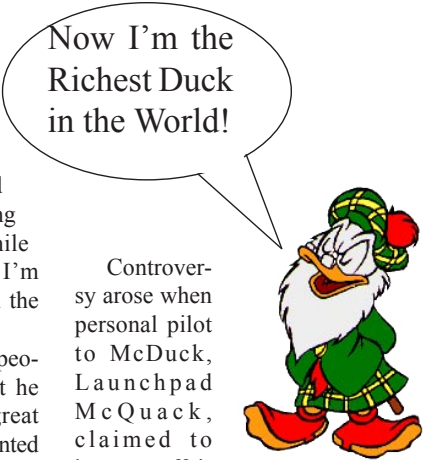


Huey, Dewey, and Louie Duck are the heirs the famous landmark of Duckberg, the Money Bin.

title: 'The World's Richest Duck' and surpassed his long-time rival Flintheart Glomgold. "I hated McDuck, but he made his fortunes square," commented Glomgold after the funeral. Trying to hold back a smile he added; "Now, I'm the richest duck in the world."

"I know lots of people hated him, but he was the greatest great uncle ever," commented Deuteronomy "Dewey" Duck after the funeral. Scrooge McDuck was one of the last of the McDuck clan.

McDuck's will left the majority of his assets to his three great nephews: Hubert, Deuteronomy, and Louis Duck, commonly know as Huey, Dewey, and Louie. The McDuck name has faded with Scrooge, and his great nephews are the only descendants of the clan now. Duckworth, longtime butler and friend, will become the chairman of Scrooge's financial empire. Donald was named legal guardian of the nephews.



Controversy arose when personal pilot to McDuck, Launchpad McQuack, claimed to have an affair with Dumbella Duck long ago and was in fact the real father of the triplets.

Aunt to the nephews and Donald's longtime girlfriend, Daisy Duck was asked to comment on the adultery of her brother's wife with Launchpad, but declined and then sobbed miserably. Donald Duck, enraged at the rumor, began hopping on one leg while putting one foot and fist forward and winding up with his other arm while yelling "Hey! What's the big idea?!" Nearby family members rolled their eyes and ignored his fit.

"If it's got wings, I can crash it. Well, I guess that goes for funerals too," said Launchpad to the press on Monday morning.

Holiday Hassles No More

Adam Freeland
Resident Holiday Analyst

As Bob Francisco no longer graces us with his presence, Dr. Dan Fox has stepped in to fill the void. Taking the office of Director of Student Life, Dr. Fox wasted no time in reshaping the ordinary order of events. The most drastic changes are in the naming of school holidays. So far, he has only turned Fall Break into Autumn Break. The big controversy, though, is in his plan to rename Valentine's Day.

Dr. Fox sees the gap in the ratio of male to female students at this school, and while he has no apparent desire to change it, he wants to make it more acceptable. Following this line of thinking, he proposed on Friday to officially change the name of Valentine's Day to Single Awareness Day. This change will be voted on by the Board of Trustees next month as

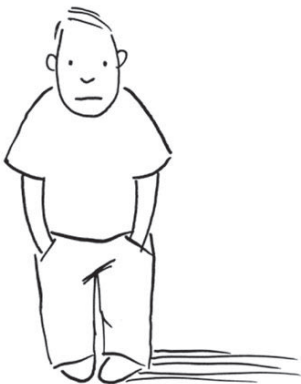
the *Autumn* and Spring Semester plans are finalized.

As word of this possible change seeped out, many students came out in support of Dr. Fox. He estimates that he has received over 100 emails supporting the name change. Students feel that it takes some of the pressure off finding a date at this time of year. Opposition to the name change has only been voiced publicly by the Geophysics department, although they declined to state why.

Dr. Fox hopes that these changes, along with many more to come, will make the campus a better place for its semi-diverse population.

These trends are likely to catch on at other colleges with similar needs. On Monday, a student group at the University of Southern California

recommended that their calendar for the coming years be based of the ancient Trojan calendar, to better show their roots. The homogenous holiday schedule that we have taken for granted may now be gone forever.



Exclusive Interview: Blaster the Donkey

Get a Candid Glimpse into Everyone's Favorite Animal

Mike Stone
Chief Donkey Expert

Blaster is the official mascot of CSM. Our donkey of pride was born on April 9th, 1874 at the bottom of a gold mining shaft. He was an instant hit in Golden and, due to great timing, was made the official mascot of CSM. In his youth, he carried sacks of grain for the fledgling Coors Brewing Company. By thirteen, he was an accomplished black belt in Tae Kwon Donkey. At the age of 30, after years of faithful service to the school, Blaster went into retirement, only making

do pretty well off of those royalties." **I See. Are there any ladies in Blaster's life?** "I always kiss and tell. Last week I got a little friendly with Mississippi State's Belle. She used to be Chip's girlfriend from Boulder, but she was looking for Mine's Ass." **Uh oh. Does he know?** "No, so let's keep that secret." **No problem. Do you play any sports?** "Yes. I mostly play Soccer, Track and



Blaster accepts interview after legal details completed.

special appearances at events such as E-Days and Graduations. Though Blaster is hard to come by these days, this reporter got a special interview with him only a few days ago.

Thank you for being here, Blaster. "Great to be here Mike, how long's this gonna take?" **I assure you, not long at all. So, what have you been up to lately?** "Well, you know, a little relaxation and a LOT of partying." **Really?** "Let's just say there are plenty of empty bottles of rum and college bells at the ranch." **That's good to hear, I guess. So you live on a ranch?** "Yeah, it's just me." **How are you supporting yourself these days?** "Well, back in the 60's, I did some stand-in's for the Mr. Ed show. I still

Volleyball. (Anything not requiring opposable thumbs)" **Ever been in trouble with the law?** "Me and my buddy Air Bud did some time three years ago for trying to knock over a 7Eleven. Bud said he could hold the gun, but I guess he only looks good in movies because of the special effects." **Well, I hope you learned your lesson.** "I did. I was on a self-destructive path for a while, so I'm kind of glad it happened. It helped me get clean, too." **Were you addicted to something?** "Sugar. I was doing lines 20 times a day. What can I say? I'm a Donkey who loves his sugar. I'll still have a cotton candy every now and then."

Catch the rest of the interview online at www.oredigger.net

Fool's Gold



Investment for the Future

Adam Freeland
Campus Investment Advisor

There are many ways to invest your money for your golden years, but none have the potential of gambling. The average savings account has a rate of return of around 4.5%, while the average winning number on Roulette has a return of 35000%. With social security failing, the costs of health care rising, and the desire to “break the mold,” grannies from all over America are headed to Vegas to secure a financially stable future.

Social security is anything but secure. The raging politic debate over what has been America’s safety net has consumed voters of all ages. In the midst of this turmoil, we have been told to secure a retirement plan that is not dependent on the government’s payroll-deducted Social Security fund. Bingo, the traditional game of chance, has not yielded the high rate of return results the Baby-Boomers desire. Bigger games mean bigger winnings, which translates into a retirement of luxury.

For Americans that are not able

to make it to Vegas to secure their future, there is the lottery. Any person who chooses to buy a jackpot-winning lottery ticket turns that one-dollar investment into \$35 million return. With numbers like these it isn’t hard to see why Americans are choosing not to invest in such old fashioned items like gold, an element that is a mere 3 protons away from being lead.

Why take chances with your future when you have the ability to secure it now with gambling winnings? Individuals like Joe Hachem and Steve Dannenmann, barely into their forties, have secured retirements (with the aid of no-limit Texas Hold’em) in one week that surpass those of the old-fashioned American who saves 10% from every pay check for fifty years. The answer is clear: stop making mortgage payments and invest in something with the return you need. Go gamble...for your future.

CSM Takes Stronger Steps Toward Security

Mike Stone
Campus Defense Analyst

President of the CSM, Bill Scoggins, announced Monday the school would be taking a firmer stance on security. “We have to ensure the safety of our students from threats- foreign and domestic,” stated Scoggins in a press conference. The plans will be coordinated along with CSM Campus Police and will take full effect by the end of this semester. Scoggins started his speech by saying; “The world is a hectic place right now, and if the terrorists decide to attack here, we’ll be ready.”

The plan, code-named “Freedom Rocks,” includes long-term and short-term development. Starting next week, all NHV teachers will be equipped with flack jackets and hand grenades, every member of the Chemistry Department will have access to riot gear and night sticks, and select grounds-keepers will have weed whacker shotguns. CSM Police will also be stationed at every building entrance to check ID’s and backpacks for PENS (Potentially Explosive Neurotoxin Sacks).

In the long-term, all buildings will have bullet-proof glass and airline cockpit doors. There will also be four military bunkers complete with a battalion of soldiers and a cannon at the corners of campus. The final project in “Freedom Rocks” will be the construction of a fallout shelter

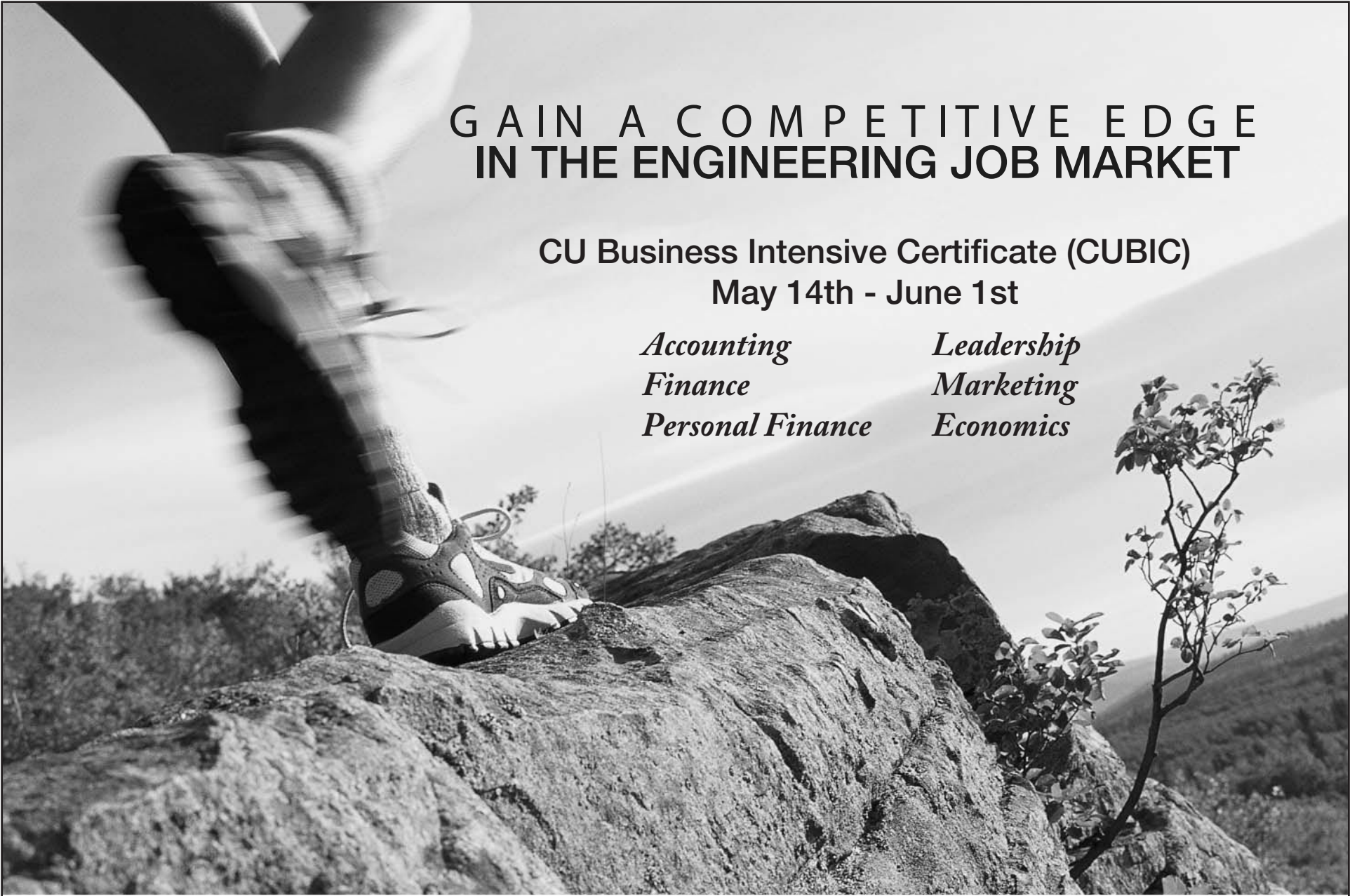
“One Cannon, not enough...”

suitable for 3,000 under Kafadar Commons.

Scoggins hopes to be the example for schools across Colorado and the nation. “The terrorists are just playing with us. They want us to believe they’re out for our way of life, but they really want a small engineering school in Golden. By my calculations, CSM is the only one,” said Scoggins. Some people believe the President is being paranoid, but others say it is not enough. CSM’s President finished the conference by saying, “I watch 24. I know this can happen.”



Mike Stone/Ordigger



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Number Theory

\$10

The anticipated cost for students to attend the Flogging Molly concert during E-days

246 to 182

The final vote count on the non-binding resolution passed in the House stating disapproval with the president's plan to send an additional 21,000 troops to Iraq₃

17

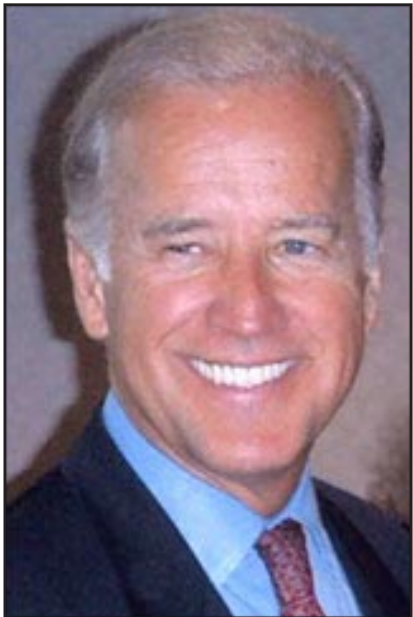
Number of Republican representatives voting for the above stated resolution₃

2

Number of Democratic representatives that voted against the above state resolution₃

1. <http://www.cnn.com/2007/POLI/TICS/01/31/biden.obama/index.html>
2. <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,21214738-7583,00.html>
3. http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/16/world/middleeast/16cnd-cong.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

Potent Quota-babbles



“I mean, you’ve got the first mainstream African-American who is articulate and bright and clean and a nice-looking guy.”

- Sen. Joe Biden (D-DE), 2008 presidential candidate, when asked by the New York Observer about his primary opponents, in this case, Barack Obama₁

“If I was running al-Qa-eda in Iraq, I would put a circle around March 2008 and pray, as many times as possible, for a victory not only for Obama, but also for the Democrats.”



- Australian Prime Minister John Howard when asked about the upcoming 2008 elections in the US and the implications on US Iraqi policy₂

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